

BAY AREA REPORTER

TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019

1528 15TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

VOL. XII NO. 48 DECEMBER 2, 1982

5 Arrests in Castro Beating Victim Praises Police Work

by George Mendenhall

"The officers who showed up immediately after the attack and Officer Armand Gordon, who investigated the case, have been highly professional and very human," Russell Mills related this week from his bed at General Hospital. "I feel good about the way they handled everything from the start. They could not have been more supportive and sympathetic."

Officer Gordon of the Public Works detail acted quickly on Monday morning after the Friday midnight attack on November 19. Although he claims he was hampered by the Public Defender's office, the officer used a license plate number provided by Mills to track down the five alleged attackers.

Mills was repeatedly struck by a male wielding a cane like a baseball bat at 19th and Sanchez after he and his lover, David, were returning from a late dinner at a Polk Street restaurant. He is still in General Hospital where he has had two operations — on his kneecap, which was par-

tially removed during the attack, and his wrist, which was shattered. Now in two body casts, he is attempting to learn how to walk with crutches and will be recovering at home for at least two months.

POLICE vs. DEFENDER

"Tell your readers I am

really pissed. I have had to put up with a lot of bullshit from the Public Defender's office," Officer Gordon related. He claims that a member of the defender's staff went out of his way to inform the young men early not to give a statement to the police until they had legal counsel.

Public Defender Jeff Brown responded, "Gordon is not a bad guy. He is just trying to do his job. He is sore because he was denied a statement. When people come to us and say they are suspects, we tell them that the statements to the police make a case for the cops. In this case it would be a 17-year-old kid against a seasoned cop who is shrewd. The kids think they can handle it but they can't."

Gordon responded, "They acted improperly. I am trying to conduct an investigation and some of the suspects would not talk with me after they talked to the public defender's Ernie Gonzales. I called him and we had a shouting match. If he had not got involved it would have been wrapped up. Now I have to put extra hours in on this case. It makes my work difficult. The taxpayers should know how one city department can interfere with the work of another department."

Randy Schell, Community United Against Violence official, said he regularly advises

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SFPD Fires Gay Cop

Decorated Vietnam Vet
Fails Field Training



Attorney Matt Coles and his client, ex-SFPD'er Randy Taylor.

Upfront Gay policeman Randy Taylor has lost his battle to become a San Francisco police officer.

Since August of 1982 when Taylor finished his field training, he has been in limbo awaiting the final disposition of his case. On November 29 Chief Con Murphy officially notified Taylor that he had been terminated.

Murphy had been deliberating the embattled candidate's case for a week after a November 23 formal 3-hour hearing at the Hall of Justice.

Murphy wrote that Taylor's scores in several vital areas

were unacceptable. In driving, Taylor got an acceptable rating 20 out of 56 scored episodes. In field performance (nonstress) Taylor scored acceptable in 14 out of 51 episodes (stress situations, 3 out of 9). In problem solving/decision making he scored acceptable 26 out of 43 times. In officer safety, 43 acceptable out of 100.

Taylor's scores were compiled in a 14-week field training phase of his cadetship from May to August 1982. After graduating from the 17-week police academy Taylor, like all the officer rookies, was

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A shattered right wrist and a smashed left kneecap and multiple head lacerations were Russell Mills' gift from five Catholic high school boys "from good families." (Photo: Harry Guiremond)

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Gays, their friends, and their Color Guard assembled on the steps of City Hall for a Milk/Moscone memorial. More pictures of the memorial on page 12. (Photo: Wood)

5 Arrests in Castro Attack

(Continued from Page 1)

victims not to make statements that can later affect a case legally. Public Defender Brown added, "I asked Gordon what the Police Officers Association would advise one of their officers if he was arrested. It is a general rule that you don't talk to the police until you have had legal counsel."

GORDON PRAISED

Praise for Gordon's police work came from several sources. Victim Mills was pleased that Gordon personally came to the hospital to take his statement and to have his wounds photographed. Gordon also talked with CUAV and Supervisor Richard Hongisto's office about the case.

CUAV's Schell said that many people falsely think that CUAV is anti-police when, "We are anti-bad-police." He praised Gordon and said he would write a commendation to his commanding officer. "He got on this case quickly on Monday and followed through. His performance

was absolutely extraordinary. He is somewhat calculated, business-like, but did a great job. He went beyond the call of duty, showing a humanitarian concern."

Gordon went to the high school of the first boy he contacted to talk with him and obtained an assurance that he would bring the other boys in. He also determined the name of the boy who wielded the cane. The father of one of the boys contacted him and has been cooperative and concerned about the victim. An early meeting with the boys was cancelled after the public defender entered the case. However, Gordon said he believes the two statements he did obtain are adequate to proceed. One of the boys has been arrested and four others are to be arrested this Friday. Part of the delay is due to the fact that one of the suspects who has been relating information to Gordon has been ill.

JUVENILE COURT

All of the boys are to be ar-

rested for assault with a deadly weapon (245a PC) which is a felony. They are all under 18 years of age so will be pro-

cured: Police present a report after the arrest. The District Attorney decides whether to file charges. A Court Commissioner has a hearing within 72 hours and decides if a legal action is to be taken. The Juvenile Court then hears

the two victims. David escaped after a brief encounter in which he was bruised. He called the police. Mills could not get away. One of the attackers repeatedly thrashed out at him with his cane. The five made a fast exit and the entire incident was over in less than two minutes. As they left, one of the attackers shouted out with a hysterical laugh.

Mills is the kind of public-spirited citizen who frequently calls the police when he observes an incident that needs attention. He was concerned as to why the police waited from Friday night when he handed officers the truck license plate number until Monday morning to begin their investigation. Gordon said it was primarily a matter of shortage of personnel at Mission Station Friday night. A report on the vehicle did go out at that time. Officers are quickly moving from incident



Russell Mills in his hospital bed after brutal beating above Dolores Park.
(Photo: Harry Guiremand)

cessed through the Juvenile Court system. In juvenile cases the procedure is more complicated than in other

those cases that the commissioner decides are valid . . . If prosecuted, juveniles are frequently put in counseling or service programs with an emphasis on rehabilitation.

The juveniles, all under 18, are students at a local prominent Catholic high school. Gordon said, "They are Hispanics from good families concerned about what happened."

SUDDEN ATTACK

The incident itself began when a pickup truck with a camper shell on top pulled up beside Mills and his lover. One guy shouted from the truck, "What the fuck are you looking at?" The five then jumped from the truck, which remained double-parked with the lights on, and encircled



SFPD'er Armand Gordon — praised by Gay victim of Castro beating.

to incident on the weekend. "They do the best they can."

George Mendenhall

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Gay residents of 17th and Noe Streets of late have been stricken with an ever-growing San Francisco phenomenon: terrorism spread by a gang of alcoholic, drug-ired teenage thugs. The gang takes over the four corners, the sidewalks, and the alleys — most completely after dark. Normal movement becomes dangerous: entering or leaving one's home, going to one's car, shopping at the corner mom and pop. Fear permeates the neighborhood, and nobody seems to know how to solve the problem.

On November market clerk John Farris was on his way home around 2:30 a.m. He was suddenly attacked by an unknown assailant, and five more joined the fight. He described his attackers as a "gang of Latino kids who live in the same building." The alleged base of the gang was 350 Noe Street.

Farris, 43, said the thugs were loaded, and as he fought his way into his building, one of the gang punched his fist through the front door's plate glass window. He has watched their comings and goings from his apartment as the street-drinking desperados challenge and harass anyone who crosses their path.

Farris also noted throughout it all the "police were marvelous;" still, he fears the

street.

Robert Hunter at 6 p.m. on November 27 was shopping in the small grocery store at the corner of 17th and Noe. A belligerent trio were drinking beer outside. As he left the store, one of the three tried to trip him. He was called homophobic names. Once safely inside his building he called Mission Station. After 25 minutes a lone woman police officer arrived at the scene. Hunter watched her performance with admiration. She arrested two (one youth had fled) for public drinking and being present at an attempted assault. Hunter went out to identify his tormentors, but he too now feels he has been targeted for retaliation. Hunter said he has discussed the menacing gang with neighbors and the storekeeper, and all are frightened.

He too identified a green asphalt building at 374 Noe Street as the base of the core group.

Both of the men agreed that while their once peaceful block has turned into a battleground, they will not be driven away. They plan to organize their neighbors — Gay and straight — keep in touch with Mission Station, and put the heat on the neighborhood's outbreak of torment.





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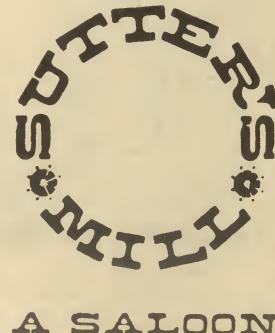
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a few words from STEVE PERKINS

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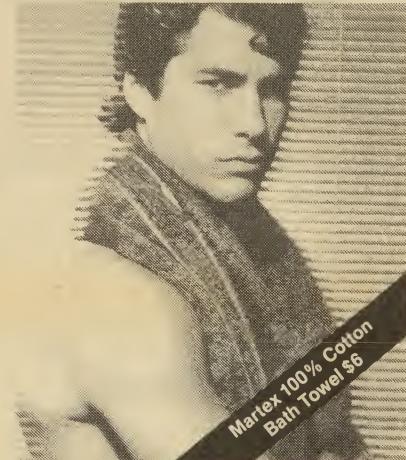
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Canadians Out to Oust NGTF Director

by Paul Lorch

"In Canada, Jack Campbell is a wolf in sheep's clothing," Elan Rosenquist, Vice-Chair of Canada's Right to Privacy Committee (RTPC) asserted this week that the national Gay leader had lost credibility in Canada.

Rosenquist, a Toronto, Ontario, city planner, was backing up statements he and his group had put out regarding the Miami, Florida-based Gay philanthropist and bath house chain owner.

According to Rosenquist, the Privacy Committee, Canada's largest and — to some — most significant Gay rights organization, had called for Jack Campbell's resignation from the Board of Directors of the New York-based National Gay Task Force (NGTF).

At issue was Campbell's pleading guilty on November 21, 1981, to conspiracy charges ("conspiracy to possess proceeds obtained from crime"). The charges arose from a series of Toronto bath house raids. The raids followed a six-month investigation by undercover police of four Toronto Gay bath houses. Campbell was part owner of the Club Toronto and the Barracks. He and five other shareholders were charged. The five Torontonians have fought the allegations, but Campbell, according to the Canadian activists, flew in to Toronto unannounced, pled guilty, was fined \$40,000, and left the city the same day. Canadian Gays have neither forgotten nor forgiven.

"At his trial," said RTPC Chairman Graham J. Crawford, "after hearing police testimony, Campbell admitted before the Court that he was 'embarrassed by the anti-social acts' alleged to have taken place in his bath house." This, insists Crawford, did "irreparable damage to our struggle in Canada."

At the last bath raids over 300 men were arrested for being in a house of ill repute for immoral purposes (some for "buying," some for "selling"). Some of these men are still facing trial and over 90% pleaded not guilty. The Toronto raids were the second largest mass arrest in Canadian history.

The RTPC was organized soon after the raids as an ad hoc committee. They provided financial, emotional, and political support to those charged. Since then the Privacy Committee has grown in size and stature, and today ranks as perhaps Canada's premier Gay rights organization. It holds monthly meetings, with from 30 to 50 in attendance.

It was the recent news that Campbell had been elected Treasurer of the National Gay Task Force for 1982-83 that triggered Canadians going on the warpath. The RTPC executives presented their plan to their November general meeting. The motion that they contact NGTF and call for Campbell's resignation was passed unanimously. At the time they were unaware that

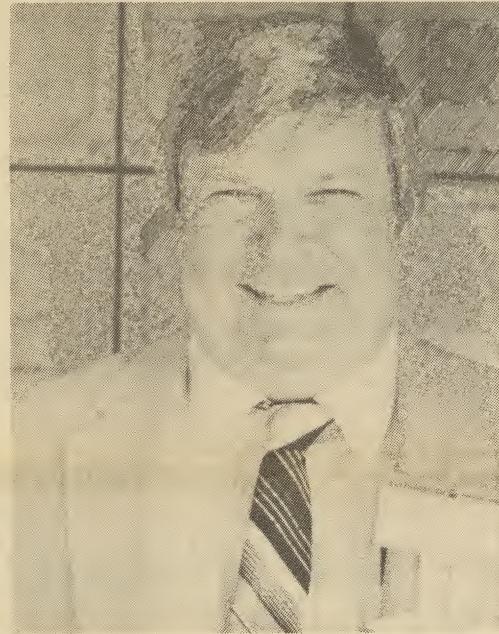
the Floridian had already served five years on the NGTF Board.

Said Rosenquist, "His actions in Canada were so detrimental to our movement that his holding a position of responsibility in a major Gay rights organization is highly questionable."

Rosenquist explained that Campbell's guilty plea has continually surfaced in the other cases (even though it is not supposed to be brought in). His guilty plea (which po-

bell of the contents. He said he has been looking into the charges and will circulate the letter with his comments among his board members. The next general meeting of the NGTF Board is in May. He said the NGTF bylaws contain a provision that a member can be removed for acting contrary to the stated objectives of the organization by a two-thirds vote. Gomez said a board member must bring the charges and must bear the burden of the proof.

He said Jack Campbell told



Club bath chain owner and Gay activist/philanthropist has been targeted by Toronto Gay rights group. (Photo: Rink)

lice had labeled as part of an international crime ring) has been used in Parliament as evidence not to reform Canada's criminal code. In addition, the Canadian criminal code is universal (it applies from Nova Scotia to Vancouver — unlike state-wide codes in the U.S.). According to Canadian activists what applies in Toronto can be used in Winnipeg.

"Hundreds of people have been affected by his [Campbell's] decision," said Rosenquist, "and it will have repercussions across Canada."

NGTF RESPONSE

Jose Gomez, Co-Chair of the NGTF, told the Bay Area Reporter that his group's New York office had received the Canadians' letter and that he has apprised director Camp-

him he carefully weighed the issues at the time. Campbell was told his decision would not affect the outcome of the other cases. Dennis Findlay, RTPC's coordinator of legal affairs, thinks otherwise. He told the Bay Area Reporter the guilty plea is brought up continually — and while the courts rule it is not relevant, the press is not bound by any rules.

The Canadians are also chagrined that they didn't get an immediate NGTF response to their letter of November 9. Gomez said NGTF wheels — with board members scattered nation-wide — just don't turn that fast. The letter went to the New York office, and he only received it at the last board meeting November 14.

This reporter asked the To-
(Continued on Page 16)

Harvard Students Elect Gay Leader

Cambridge, MA. The newly constituted 89-member Undergraduate Council at Harvard University has elected its first chairperson, Michael Colantuono. He is openly Gay. Since 1969 the university has been without representative student government because officials disbanded it following student demonstrations.

Colantuono told Gay Com-

munity News, "The Harvard Crimson always identifies me as a 'Gay activist' and I am, but my politics go beyond that. That is why I won." There was considerable campus discussion if his election would harm the image of the university or damage the council's relationship with the administration. The new official has been active in attempting to persuade the uni-

versity to include literature about the student Gay rights group in admissions packets and to take a nondiscrimination position on sexual orientation.

The council choice did not come easy, as there were five ballots in a three and one-half hour debate. Council members are chosen by residential districts. The group annually disburses \$60,000 in student fees.

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VOL. XII NO. 48 DECEMBER 2, 1982

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NEXT DEADLINE: DEC. 3

VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

Bringing Home A Commission

Sometime this month the State Commission on Personal Privacy will turn over its 450-page report to the on-the-way-out Governor Jerry Brown. That is if they can lure him away from cleaning out his desk drawers and vacating his Sacramento apartment. That is if the whipped politician even has it in his heart to bother meeting with anyone.

Disheartening gossip among the Commissioners in mid-November was that Brown's first reaction to the news of the report's birthing was to drop it off with one of his clerks. In September then-heady Commissioners were envisioning a ceremony with pomp and flourishes. But the unremitting voters got their chance to speak out loud that they had enough of the enigmatic pol. The rejection was both for the man and all he stood for.

(And that includes his Personal Privacy Commissioners — even though their two years of work in no way figured in the campaign.) The report was designed for a post-election release from the first, for even the most radical Commissioners sensed that Jerry Brown didn't need any more problems than he had already in his wheelbarrow.

For those unaware of what the Commission or its report is about, fret not. These pages have repeatedly referred to the Privacy Commission over the past two years as one of the best kept secrets in the state.

On October 8, 1980, Jerry Brown issued executive order 874-80 which created the Privacy Commission. He selected fifteen people; the State Senate chose five, and the Assembly another five. The Commission was charged with the investigation of invasions of the right of personal privacy and secondly the investigation of discrimination based on sexual orientation in both the private and public sectors.

In January 1981 Brown peopled his Commission, which from the first "phobers" labeled his "Gay Commission."

With the heavy propensity of Gays, the shoe fit, but not for a moment was there any doubt the stakes were larger, deeper, and more pressing. The group leapt into the unknown and this past September voted into urgency 138 recommendations.

The suggestions range from redefining the concept of family, to lowering the age of consent, to curbing police surveillance of homes, restrooms, and dressing rooms.

Former L.A. City Attorney Burt Pines, the Commission's chairman, in his letter of transmittal says, "We hope the report will serve two functions: first, inform and help educate the people... as to the right of personal privacy; and, second, operate as a catalyst for implementations of whatever protections are still needed to make that right a practical reality."

With the change of the guard in Sacramento little hope now exists that the new governor awaits the report with held breath. Throughout the two years of the report's making has always lingered the fear that the final product would be little more than a dust collector.

The burden of keeping the report alive will fall to the state's Gay community — as so many of the recommendations benefit that special interest.

The first step will be to get to know what's in the report (before tackling local legislators and filing lawsuits). The report, by the way, is not bedside light reading; it's heavy. That is not to say impassable, but the subject matter involves law, codes, regulations; it takes intensive care.

How important is it all? As much as the citizenry makes it.

P. Lorch

ON A SUSPICIOUS DEATH

★ Re: "Death of Cop's Lover Still Not Settled" in your November 18 issue.

A friend of mine brought this article to my attention since she knew how deeply distressed I was by Greg Augbum's death. My sadness had been accompanied by confusion, which seemed to be shared by many of my friends who knew this wonderful man. Yet I had seen no press coverage, until yours, that expressed any doubt as to the cause of death.

It is difficult to accept any person's death, but, in this case, the "I don't believe it" extended beyond the normal human resistance to such distressing news. Everyone I know who knew this life-loving man finds it extremely difficult to accept that he took his own life.

Thank you for expressing public doubt as to the circumstances surrounding his untimely death. Perhaps by drawing attention to this case a properly thorough investigation will be conducted.

Vivian Imperiale
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: On November 24 the San Francisco Coroner and Police Homicide Inspector Frank Folzon concluded the death was a suicide and have ended their investigation. Police brass are reportedly satisfied with the thoroughness of the investigation. The only nagging doubts are reportedly the three contradictory versions relayed by Augbum's lover, Corbett Dickey, of what happened that night.

P. Lorch

OFFENDED

★ The letter from "The Grand Wizard of Poo Poo Holes" (Vol. XII, No. 46, 11/18/82) is the most offensive piece of garbage I've ever seen published in B.A.R. I suppose the letter is indicative of the many sick and depraved gay men who pull SF's image down into a cesspool which puts those of us gays who still believe in romance (a rare breed indeed in SF) in a bad light also. Has it ever entered the "Grand Wizard's" mind (if he has one not riddled with syphilis) that some people go out to relax and enjoy themselves — not necessarily to be "ploughed" as he so intellectually puts it? The day an enema becomes a part of my routine toilet before going out is the day I hope to become as lobotomized regarding sex as the type of person "Grand Wizard" must be. I realize, sadly, that it is a popular type in this beautiful city with the most mixed up gay populace I've encountered from coast to coast.

Just sign me,

One of the last romantics in the area
Stanford, CA

TOWARD CHANGE

★ As I sit here writing this, a dear friend of mine lies in a hospital bed — hooked up to an oxygen mask — with Kaposi's and Pneumocystis. He is 25 years old and he's not expected to survive. His story of past "excesses" is a relatively tame one, a story that most of us could tell. His occasional avoidance of the doctor's office is fairly typical as well: he did not get that dry, shallow cough checked out right away and he did not completely follow up on curing amoebas and he did not discontinue rimming years ago and he did not always pull himself right out of a bout of depression. We all have our own such litany, I'm sure.

And it's probably not the over-reaction of grief that moves me to say that we are all faced with a great crisis, an unimaginably profound crisis. People are starting to die all around us, and it's happening more and more all the time. We are nowhere near a cure

for AIDS and, incredibly, research funds are still not forthcoming. At this point, a lot of us seem unable or unwilling to face the fact that promiscuity, "recreational" drugs, and low health consciousness are simply dangerous practices. Something very serious is going on out there! How long will we carry on as usual before it all falls in on itself?

I think we're going to have to work on evolving some entirely new forms of community now. We need to start examining our long-term sexual and emotional needs and to look toward creating more fulfilling relationships with each other. We must begin to focus on isolating these diseases running rampant among us, and on learning healthier ways of doing things — from each other.

Now is the time when we really need to tap that source — the loving camaraderie, the liberating spirit, the healing force — of our gay power. Let's start thinking about how we can take care of our sexual/picnic ya-yas without endangering our health. Will you help?

J. Joyce
San Francisco

GAY VICTIMS

★ Mayor Feinstein has again avoided the issue of Gay-bashing by relying on the recent report of the Victim Survey Task Force, apparently commissioned by her for this purpose. As a lawyer who has worked to end anti-Gay violence, I would never contend that Gay people were more frequently victims of violent crime in general. I assert only that we are victims of unusual attacks in which the sole purpose of the assailant(s) is to inflict injury upon someone because of his or her (assumed) sexual orientation. In over 92% of the incidents I have investigated, nothing (of value) was taken from the victim; in some cases involving theft, it occurred as an after-thought and was clearly not a motivating factor in the attack.

As to the Task Force's report, it appears that the statistics used have been chosen to cover-up these noneconomic attacks by including a wide variety of violent crimes (robbery, murder, rape, etc.) that obviously afflict citizens regardless of their sexual orientation. The conclusion is inescapable: This report will be used to deny the existence of the Gay-bashing problem rather than to focus on these attacks and work toward their abatement.

We must, therefore, learn to defend ourselves and our community from violent attacks since the clear intention of San Francisco's city government is to ignore this problem by pretending it does not exist.

Richard Gayer
San Francisco

CALIFORNIA HALL FATE

★ Through many years the gay community has had the privilege of using the convenient and adequate California Hall. That building is now for sale, and we should be alerted. It would be beneficial if a group or concerned individuals in our community could purchase this edifice.

I was alarmed to hear on a religious broadcast that one group is currently raising funds to purchase the building. On this same broadcast there was an anti-Gay and Lesbian tirade preached and the example that this group would not serve the same community that Glide Church serves. It sounds like we will not be welcome if they purchase the building. This organization is: The World-Wide Brotherhood, Box 1130, San Francisco 94101; 931-9972 and 626-5585. The leader is Brother Moore and the program is heard Sunday mornings at 6 a.m. on KEST.

John A. Reed
San Francisco

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(Div. of Benro Enterprises, Inc.)
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LETTERS

SOUTH BAY FAN

★ This letter is long overdue. I have known Tom Rogers for over two months now and all along I realized that I should write to B.A.R. and say thanks. Thanks for giving San Jose the opportunity to be seen through the eyes of so loving, concerned and active a man. I have expressed my appreciation to him individually, but a man of such virtue deserves public praise. A man who so honestly and urgently works to promote community and justice is a great asset. There is no stronger voice for Gay unity and progress in San Jose than Tom's.

It is not easy to move gracefully and assuredly through our maze of troubles in San Jose as Tom does. He has courage and he recognizes courage in others. He is receptive and available to everyone — qualities which are greatly needed in San Jose. I believe that if everyone could come to know him as I have, they would be more inspired and proud. His vision for San Jose is one everybody can share. He knows who we are, what we have, and what we can be. That which causes my community to blossom also causes me to blossom.

Thank you, Tom, for the care, and thank you, B.A.R., for such a magnificent blood-black rose.

Bill Whitmore
San Jose, CA

POLICE FAILINGS

★ After reading your November 24 edition of the B.A.R., the one area that stands out in my mind is the extremely poor performance of the S.F. Police Department (Officers). There seems to be a general air of incompetence from top to bottom in this department (not to mention a flagrant disregard of the very laws for which we pay them to enforce in a sane manner).

It seems that many Police Officers are riddled with character flaws that would have disqualified them while still in the Police Academy, had they applied for position in some other city.

A great number of them, judging by their actions (or lack of actions, depending on the circumstances) are afflicted with intense economic jealousy; a feeling of inferiority; an inability to rationalize; too little education; racial prejudice (white, black, and yellow); insecurity; and a general fear of dealing with violent crimes, especially when it involves apprehending the person(s) responsible for the violence (they find it much safer to intimidate the victim into withdrawing charges, or to simply misplace the statistics (evidence) that would support a legal action by the victim).

This is not law enforcement! This is simply a bunch of frightened civil employees who are more concerned with their job benefits than they are with performing their jobs to the best of their ability.

The S.F. Police Department must learn, and learn fast, that the Gay community is here to stay, and that we intend to have the same rights and privileges as any other group. They must start dealing with us as fully franchised American citizens, not as a contemptible rabble that has no rights.

JRD
San Francisco

ACCOUNTING LINES

★ I would like to add to the 11/18 letter from Jim Becker ("Bookkeeping Advice and Offer"). My interest is more cursory, as I am on the fundraising steering committee of Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco. When I first wanted to write this letter, I was going to seek special dispensation from the beloved Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence so I could write a long letter. Instead, I decided to make this letter as brief as possible.

The MCC books are in excellent shape. Additionally, in view of the fact that the most embezzlement in our community takes place against nonprofit (volunteer) groups, there are plenty of safeguards. I think the most important point, for any group or business, is to engage an accountant who is both knowledgeable and trustworthy. This individual is always the financial head of an organization, although the group may vest financial oversight in another, or a gaggle of people. The day-to-day business may be conducted by a treasurer/bookkeeper/cashier, etc., but this should always be done at the accountant's direction.

Evangelical Christians, a few years ago, formed the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (acronymed the ECFA) after much financial criticism. The Council advises member groups on proper handling of funds: accounting, daily transactions, auditing, fundraising, financial statements, banking, book-keeping, etc.

Certainly the Gay community needs something like the ECFA. The time for playing games is long past. In the interim, there are professional management companies available to all kinds of groups.

One last point: There are open groups like MCC, and there are closed groups like the Pride Foundation. Any member of MCC can examine the books anytime. This is not true of a closed group. So, "Caveat Emptor" when you join, etc., a group/organization. Be careful, and stay aware of this fact.

Herb Levy
San Francisco

NIX ON CAPT. TAYLOR

★ Wayne Friday's first, reasoned demand for the replacement of Mission Commander Taylor (12 Aug 82) prompted an immediate, if reluctant, concurrence from me which you published in the following issue.

Again (B.A.R., 24 Nov 82) Wayne addresses the issue of Taylor's competence, specifically his ongoing denials re allegations of misconduct of certain patrolmen despite substantive testimony meriting probable indictment of two officers. Again I must agree with both Wayne's thrust and conclusion.



(Photo: Rink)

Whether Officers Williams and Solomon are innocent or guilty (and the presumption of the former must precede them into Court and remain theirs until judicial due process runs) is not at issue as to whether or not Captain Taylor should go.

Constituent evidence from within the Mission District, as well as first-hand observations of my own, show Taylor to be a martinet, blind to all except that which his own moralistic rigidity allows limited comprehension. As a theoretician he is probably competent. As a pragmatist he is apparently the opposite. Seemingly he neither desires nor is competent to communicate with or comprehend the diverse elements comprising his responsibilities. He is, one deduces, an "imperious pollyanna!"

Thomas M. Edwards
San Francisco

AIDES

★ May I call attention to the fact that Harry Britt's aide Bill Kraus (suddenly devoted aide to Phil Burton) would not now be traipsing off to D.C. on concerns ostensibly Gay had it not been for Milton Marks' temerity in announcing his candidacy against our cynical and all too self-important reigning "pal"?

I've got nothing locally against Harry Britt and, indeed, intend to vote for him — most enthusiastically — when he comes up for re-election as supervisor. But I do have something very special against Harry Britt as a person: His crystal-clear hypocrisy and his lies against Milton Marks.

Again, would Kraus be going to Washington today had Milton Marks not been brave enough to stand up and start sticking pins into our own inflated Disney-world balloon called Burton? Is Harry Britt transmogrifying into just another (Gay) boss? If that is our future, please stop the Gay world, I want to get off.

Reed Vernon
San Francisco

ELECTORAL RACISM

★ I was greatly disturbed by a statement the normally astute Wayne Friday made in his "Afterthoughts" column of November 11 when he said, "Funny how those whites who voted for Deukmejian are accused of doing so because Bradley is Black while nothing is said about the Blacks who voted for Bradley for the same reason." Well, it's true nothing in this vein is being said by anyone with understanding and sensitivity to the issue. However, many voices defensively reacting to the charges of racism have been making just such absurd "reverse racism" statements in editorial pages all over the state since the election.

A goodly percentage of white Democratic voters who voted for McCarthy, Van de Kamp, Cory, Fong-Eu, and Unruh — the rest of the Democratic ticket for state office — but deserted Bradley for Deukmejian are, and I think rightly, to be suspected of racism. (Mr. Deukmejian's own savvy ex-campaign manager would agree.) But these Democrats are suspected of voting against a candidate, not for a candidate — a very different thing.

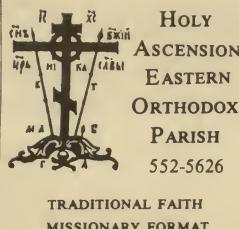
Moreover, were white voters voting for Deukmejian because after a long and continuing struggle out of slavery, Jim Crow bigotry and pervasive discrimination, they were finally getting the chance to vote for the first White candidate for Governor since Reconstruction? I think as gay white people we should be the first to understand the symbolic importance to black people of a Bradley victory, that this is a yearning to participate, to be heard, to have a role model for a whole people who have been disenfranchised for most of their 400 years on American soil. We know we have often determinedly backed gay candidates, things being equal, largely because they were gay, because of our need to see some of our kind up there. Mr. Friday has certainly participated in this. Is he then guilty of reverse homophobia?

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DC Gay Journalist Hails Election Results

The sophistication of Gay activists in almost every state has produced the most positive political results yet achieved in a national election. Larry Bush, a most astute observer of national Gay politics, believes "the 1982 elections produced the most significant shifts of support for Gay civil rights in any election since Gays first entered the political arena more than a decade ago." Bush's articles appear regularly in the *Village Voice*, *The Washington Blade*, *The Advocate*, and *New York Native*.

"Frank and Burton," Bush believes, "will be very active and effective on Gay concerns in the next Congress."

Among the 75 co-sponsors of the federal Gay rights bill (up from 61) will be six newly elected Californians. This election also produced a significant defeat in Southern California for the New Right: incumbent Republican John Rousset, an official of the John Birch Society and notorious homophobe, went down to defeat. Successes in congressional seats were also realized in New Mexico, Kansas City (Missouri), Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Connecticut.

Bush told *New York Native* readers, "Gays themselves mounted the most serious political effort yet seen on behalf of candidates, registering tens of thousands of voters across the country, distributing hundreds of thousands of endorsement sheets, and making upwards of one million dollars in campaign contributions."

The Human Rights Campaign Fund was able to raise \$600,000 in six months for pro-Gay candidates. In Los Angeles, MECLA raised \$250,000 for races in that county. The Moral Majority had a setback as 15-20 new members of Congress were added as new co-sponsors of national Gay rights legislation.

GOVERNORS

New governors were elected in New York and Ohio that have agreed to issue executive orders, as was done by Governor Jerry Brown, banning discrimination. Pro-Gay governors were also added in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan. In Michigan a conservative Mormon governor was replaced by a liberal Democrat that Gay activists had endorsed.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

New York City has replaced six incumbent City Council members and may now have enough members to adopt a long-sought non-discrimination ordinance. The majority leader of the council, Tom Cuite, had led opposition to the Gay measure in the past but is now allegedly softer on the issue. Cuite was endorsed by Mayor Ed Koch in the Primary election, costing Koch considerable Gay support. The mayor only carried one Gay area, Manhattan, in his recent Primary bid to become governor. Mario Cuomo was elected governor, with strong Gay support, but there is some speculation now if he will follow up on his promises to his Gay supporters.

Bay Area Gay voters received some targeted literature before the November election. Congressional candidates Barbara Boxer and Milton Marks mailed Gay-oriented brochures, using Gay activist mailing lists. Boxer's piece was a listing of Gay activists, with their photos, who supported her. The Marks piece pictured himself with Harvey Milk and repeated opponent Phil Burton's "I got the Gays and the cops. Ain't that a bitch." quote.

Congressman Don Edwards (D-Fremont) was hit with a mailing financed by a Fremont contractor, Sid Sutherland, in the final days of his campaign. It attacked Edwards for "giving homosexuals aid, giving your tax dollars for the defense of homosexuals." This was a reference to Edwards' opposition to a congressional amendment that would have denied homosexuals access to the federal legal aid program. Edwards was re-elected.

Parade Name Needed

The Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee is seeking community assistance in selecting a theme for the 1983 Parade on June 26. Theme suggestions may be phoned in — (415) 861-5404 — or brought to the General Membership meeting Sunday, December 12, 5-7 p.m. at the Women's Building, 3543 18th Street near Valencia.

Previous themes include: 1973: A Celebration of the Gay Experience; 1974: Gay Freedom '76; 1975: Join Us: The More Visible We Are, The Stronger We Become; 1976: United for Freedom: Our Diversity Is Our Strength; 1978: Come Out With Joy... Speak Out for Justice; 1979: Our Time Has Come; 1980: Liberty & Justice For All; 1981: Front Line of Freedom; 1982: Out of Many... One.

The theme of the Parade, reproduced on buttons, T-shirts and posters, often sets the tone for the event and provides direction for the movement.

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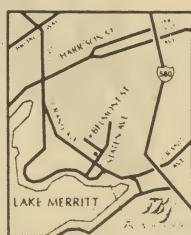
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Nelder Stirs Storm at Milk Club

by George Mendenhall

Supervisor Wendy Nelder, in what some viewed as a masochistic act, appeared before the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club last week to explain why she opposed a major piece of Gay legislation. The supervisor said that she represented "all the people" so she could not support the measure to extend the benefits of spousal rights for city employees to live-in singles. If the measure had also included the parents of employees she said she could have supported it.



Upcoming Board President Wendy Nelder took it on the chin at November's Milk Demo meeting. She is seen here at a Collingwood Park protest meeting. (Photo: Rink)

"I am not a special interest person. Separating Gay and straight is not fair," she urged. Some Milk members openly disagreed with her position and there were occasional boos and catcalls. One audience member called her "the new Anita Bryant of San Francisco" and another shouted, "Your vote was an act of homophobia."

Many audience members seemed confused as to why Nelder, aware of possible hostility, had chosen to keep her previously-scheduled speaking engagement. She responded, "I want to be open. I can be talked with. I respect you and all other people." She repeated three times that the Milk club had not endorsed her for public office and yet she was willing

to come to the club and speak and listen. As an example of her support, she said she had endorsed Gay activist Robert Barnes for BART Board, although advised not to do so.

Visibly shaken by some of the audience criticism, Nelder stressed that she had been supportive of Gay issues in the past. "It goes both ways," she stressed. "If you have a problem, there are times that I can help you. Do not take potshots at me for a reason that is not valid. I will give you better than you have given me tonight." Nelder made a sudden exit after some members of the audience were becoming increasingly hostile. There was little applause as she left the room.

Supervisor Nelder had

been on the losing side in her opposition to the two other major pieces of Gay-related legislation in the past year. She opposed the granting of a business permit to the Jaguar Book Store and voted to close the Castro area's Collingwood Park after midnight.

"Gay people are a major political force in San Francisco — certainly the best organized," KRON-TV political analyst Rollin Post told Milk members earlier in the evening. He said the newly elected U.S. Senator Pete Wilson and Governor Deukmejian will probably not work against Gay rights as they are not Moral Majority types but they will probably not support pro-Gay legislation. Post said the new governor is a low-key person who will communicate with people more readily than Brown did.

Post said he did not see the issue of District Elections in San Francisco surfacing as an issue in the near future and that he personally opposed such a system because "it cuts up the city." He also observed that the state remains politically moderate, slipping back and forth from liberal to conservative and that San Francisco remains consistently progressive. Post concluded that Bradley may have been defeated by a larger racist vote than generally thought and that "those who went to the polls with their guns to defeat gun control did not vote for Bradley."

Milk members endorsed Tom Ammiano, Gay activist school teacher, for an appointment to a vacant slot on the school board. Mayor Feinstein was asked to lobby her two appointees on the city's Health Service Board to vote for extending spousal rights to live-in single people. In addition, the Board of Supervisors was urged to hold public hearings on the violence against Gay people and Gay Democrats were encouraged to take part in city-wide party caucus sessions on December 5. ■

New Organization for Gay Adventists Formed

A new organization has been incorporated to provide religious and social services to Lesbians, Gays, bisexuals, and transsexuals of Seventh-day Adventist backgrounds. Orion Fellowship Alliance is a nonprofit corporation organized to meet the needs of the international community of Adventist sexual minorities. Orion ministers to the whole being: the spiritual, social, physical, mental, and emotional needs.

The San Francisco-based organization is dedicated to providing positive, significant insights about human sexual orientation to aid in decreasing confusion about sexual minorities. In addition, Orion provides alternate social activities for its members and the community. The group believes that its major responsibility is to provide support and

services to individuals within the sexual minority communities.

On a smaller scale, Orion is working for the development of a sexual theology within the Seventh-day Adventist church. The board of directors feels this mission of education, advocacy, and reconciliation can best be accomplished through grass-roots approaches. Such approaches include the use of speaker's bureaus, publications, and educational materials.

Orion Fellowship Alliance is not the only Gay Adventist organization in existence. But Orion spokespersons are quick to note that the other organization is basically a political lobbying group attempting to bring about change within the conservative denomination. Further, board

members of Orion are all openly Gay persons, while the board of the other organization is composed of a large proportion of closeted people who use pseudonyms. Orion believes it is vital for its leadership to be visible and identifiable in order to promote positive self-images and affirmation within its membership.

Orion publishes a monthly news journal, *Lifeline*. This publication is sent to all members. Subscriptions are also available for nonmembers. *Kontact*, published quarterly for Orion, is a corresponding service and literary magazine for members who have registered for the service. *Kontact* aids members in forming networks of support and friendship by putting members with similar interests in touch with each other.

For more information about Orion and its local chapters, write: Orion Fellowship Alliance, Inc., P.O. Box 4768, San Francisco, CA 94101.

City Clinic Volunteers

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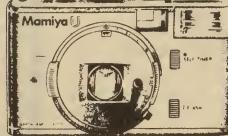
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LETTERS

GENDERS

* I note reflected in the Letters to the Editor an alarming revival of gender fucking.

Sr. Melanie Wilkes-Bashford
Sisters of Reality & Good Taste
San Francisco

CASTRO v. \$\$\$\$\$

* In recent editions, people have written letters urging "Castro-ites" to boycott certain businesses infiltrating our Metropolis, such as it is. I consider myself a San Franciscan after three years of residence and have seen the rapid changes taking place throughout our fair City. Mr. / Miss CASTRO "SHOULD" boycott certain businesses: i.e. "CROWN BOOKS," "HALL-MARK CARDS," etc., for they do not represent the theme of our area. Who needs them? Right? CASTRO IS OUR neighborhood and it's changing. When the bus drives up Market Street, it's marked "CASTRO," it makes me feel proud to be going to my little area of town. However, looking around various sections, the vast majority of businesses have no semblance of finesse and we ARE unique and special. We MUST preserve our area and boycott those unwanted stores and seek more GAY business.

Money is green and is everyone's favorite color. Give or take your basic "Black." We don't need more specialized clothing shoppes, bars, card shoppes, etc. I am most assured that with our expertise and flair we can come up with other ideas that would sell. All in all, what I'm getting at is this: GAY business helps GAY people. Let's keep it that way.

Phil Bennington
San Francisco

LABORITE CORRECTIONS

* Not only did George Mendenhall misspell my name in the article "AFL-CIO Unions Back Gay Rights" of last week's B.A.R., but also left some confusing and incorrect impressions of my involvement in local gay/labor issues.

"The heads of several local unions have encouraged Gays to come out and these officials frequently attend Gay political club functions. Peter Tiney [Tenney] of the Restaurant Workers has organized a Gay caucus..."

Fires off, even in my own wild imaginations, I do not think of myself as the head of our local Restaurant Workers union. In fact, I'm not even currently a member. I had worked for the past year in a gay-owned, gay-managed and largely gay-staffed chic Market Street restaurant. Neither this nor any other gay owned and operated bar or restaurant in San Francisco is unionized. I was recently fired when the boss and I had an argument because I refused to work on my scheduled night off. This, and many other unfair practices, would not occur in a union house, at least not without some recourse.

This same boss once tried to justify his nonpayment of overtime to me. I told him that was illegal. He said, "There's a lot of things that go on that are illegal. I've worked a lot of restaurants and I never got paid overtime. You're not seeing both sides of the coin!"

Basic state labor laws regarding minimum wage, overtime, breaks, meal periods, etc. for restaurant workers are outlined in an orange sheet titled "Wages, Hours, and Working Conditions in the Public House-keeping Industry" available from the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement, 525 Golden Gate Avenue, Room 102, Phone (415) 557-0860.

Another point: "... these officials frequently attend Gay political club functions. Peter Tiney [Tenney] of the Restaurant Workers..."

I have never been involved in the gay political clubs. Nor do I want to be. I feel there is enough grassroots, issue-oriented work to be done without getting sucked into the petty and not-so-petty power games the clubs seem to foster.

Furthermore, Mendenhall implies that these "labor leaders" support our community wholeheartedly. While it is true that they recognize our votes and endorsements, and make their appearances hoping to collect them, this does not always translate into direct action that trickles down from bureaucrat to workplace, improving conditions or social relations in any concrete way. That would be like assuming because S.F. has an openly gay Supervisor, police beatings of gay people will stop. We know this is not true.

Let me be clear. I support the process of unionizing, but NOT as gay mascots of the union administration, easing the way for a drive that builds the union treasury while disrespecting individuals and institutions in the gay community. The latest Church Street Station effort saw some business reps who are at best "insensitive," worst abusive towards gay employees. Meanwhile, many of us work for turkeys, like the one I described.

Peter Tenney
San Francisco

P.S. I am currently involved in the issue of securing medical and other benefits through employers and/or unions for gay "spouses." If interested please call 863-7729.

ED. NOTE: Mendenhall appreciates your input and will be contacting you soon. He is currently researching for a coming feature on the status of the restaurant workers' union, Gay businesses, and the Tavern Guild.

P. Lorch

NELDER'S RASPBERRY

* Actress Wendy Nelder put on a rotten performance at the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club last week. Her line that Harry's spousal rights ordinance was not strong enough for her was just not convincing. It was clear to most of us that she did not vote for it because of who she is and needed some justification, however specious, to offer her Gay and Lesbian constituents. And if she's not the conniving actress I believe she is, then she must be a very stupid person.

Her voiced objections were that the ordinance didn't cover relatives of city employees — and she could never cast a vote that would discriminate against a class of people. Not her. She said she understood we wanted the ordinance to validate our relationships.

Huh? The spousal rights ordinance was drawn up to eliminate discrimination on the basis of MARITAL STATUS. If she wants to lead the fight to extend benefits to others and bring socialized medicine and other good things to the city, we'll back her all the way — but let her introduce her own legislation and not cloud our issue.

We need this ordinance to insure our financial and emotional well-being. Health insurance and hospital visiting rights are at the heart of the issue. Money and power over our own lives and equality under the law are what's at stake. When will the Wendy Nelders learn that they don't have the power to validate our relationships or not. Only we've got that power.

But for me the most disturbing element of the meeting was the controversy among our own members. Many of us responded spontaneously to Nelder's provocative comments. She was never shouted down, but neither did her remarks go unchallenged. It was a dialogue between supervisor and constituents. A handful of our members were outraged by our "rudeness" and repeatedly shouted for order and politeness. It was their behavior that was disruptive and rude, but even worse, self-oppressing.

I am not going to politely applaud some misguided modern day bigot while she double-talks us into a fog. Nor should I. We have a right to be righteously indignant when we get shafted, and we do ourselves a disservice to sit on our anger.

As it was, Nelder left shaken, though not as shaken as she should have been. Good for George Mendenhall for calling her homophobe.

And to those who fear that our disgraceful behavior cost us the good will of the new board president. I remind them we didn't get this far because the powerful succumbed to our charms. Politics ain't like that.

Naphatli Offen
San Francisco

DRINKING HABITS

* I have been a resident of the Castro area for well over two years now. I've patronized the bars on and around Castro Street for that same amount of time. Up until recently my friends and I have never had a problem going into any of these bars to enjoy ourselves and have a few drinks. Now one bar — the Elephant Walk — has decided that I'm not good enough to drink in their place of business (that they don't need my money). They've even told one friend — after refusing him a drink — that he couldn't buy one there because — get this — he's a drunk. So what else do you go into a bar to do — teetotal?

Another friend of mine is Asian. Some of the other bars on the street give him attitude. They don't want him there. He isn't white enough for them. Translation: white equals clone. God forbid if you're black. I guess then you have your own special bar — so you keep out of everyone else's.

Well, I have the key to unlock this kind of discrimination. That key is your money. Don't spend it in these bars. Because when it gets right down to it they can't survive without your money or your presence. Most of all, don't support suppression of the different types of people we all represent and should be able to share with one another. We are gay — we need each other. Businesses like these need us — we don't need them.

Daniel, Bill & Danny
San Francisco

P.S. Do you know where we can get a drink?

BUENA VISTA WALKERS

* Being a regular dog walker in the park brings my attention to the extremely friendly women one meets there. Could it be the "great" CBS exposé has created a new habit in the park? I've also come to the conclusion that the women there are aggressive and very friendly. The men usually give a quick nod and go on about their business, perhaps in fear. Women tend to be much different, quite willing to converse about important nothingness. There are also a great deal more female dog lovers there than male.

Walking the dog has been a classic escape for closeted homosexual men for ages. One wonders if it has now caught on for female pooch lovers. What next I wonder?

Charles M. Myers, Jr.
San Francisco

P.S. Were I a woman, I'd be a Lesbian.

Phil Donahue Hosts Falwell vs. Local Gays

by George Mendenhall

"There is a moral majority in this country because most people are trying to live their lives as responsibly and as lovingly as they can," Supervisor Harry Britt told a national television audience last week when he appeared on the ABC-TV Phil Donahue Show. He added, "There is also a minority of people who believe in setting down rules for other people."



Scott (The Widow Milk) Smith appeared on the Chicago-based Phil Donahue Show to explain his \$5,500 city pension payoff. (Photo: Rink)

The Moral Majority's Rev. Jerry Falwell and Scott Smith, the former lover of Supervisor Harvey Milk, joined Britt in a half-hour discussion. The program, taped in Chicago and aired on Thanksgiving Day, dealt with Britt's recent legislation giving benefits to live-in partners of city employees and Smith's receiving of a settlement as the Milk beneficiary. Smith was sidestepped as the program concentrated on the Britt/Falwell encounter.

Britt urged, "There are millions of Americans out there who are living their primary emotional relationships outside the traditional marriage patterns." He said his legislation calling for domestic partner benefits for city employees is "proper, as many Lesbians and Gay men — some of whom have loved each other and lived together as long as 50 years cannot get married" while heterosexuals "can get married and immediately create a valid relationship."

Falwell avoided discussing the legislation itself but chose to discuss homosexuality: "There has never been a culture or a society that has lasted very long that has en-

dorsed the lifestyle of homosexuality . . . We are going against the public feeling. A recent Gallup poll indicated that the vast majority of Americans do not believe that homosexuality is an acceptable lifestyle. Of course, as a Christian I believe in the Biblical opposition."

The supervisor responded quickly when Falwell said that if such legislation is allowed, "in twenty years I can see bestiality becoming acceptable behavior. When a man dies, his dog would benefit." Britt replied, "We do not like our emotional relationships equated with bestiality. My sense of how civilizations survive is by changing their institutions and their laws to conform to the needs of living human beings."

The talk show host explained the Britt legislation in some detail and added, "I am sure that the insurance and hospital people are not giving this a standing ovation." Britt responded, "I am sure they can figure it all out."

Donahue asked Falwell, "How can God punish somebody (meaning homosexuals) for being something that he had no influence over?" The

evangelist replied, "Homosexuality is learned, not inherited. We are all sinners. But when a person who meets Christ is born again he receives the Holy Spirit and has the power to overthrow those shackles."

The supervisor emphasized that the local Roman Catholic Commission on Social Justice had issued a study that called for same-sex spousal benefits. Falwell took this to mean that it was an official position of the church itself in San Francisco, stating, "Well, Pope John II very clearly stated the church's position on homosexuality." Donahue joked, "I am not sure, however, that the Pope has gone on record in regard to workers' compensation benefits."

Britt kept his humor, although he was firm with the reverend. At one point, after Falwell had interrupted him numerous times, Britt, a former minister himself, said jokingly, "Isn't there something in the Bible about not interrupting people?" . . . Scott was virtually left out of the program, although he did discuss his relationship with Milk. Falwell responded, "Taxpayers should not pay for benefits to perverted behavior."

There were no hostile audience responses to Britt or Scott but Falwell was criticized. A woman stated that she did not "see how you can deal with the message of Jesus Christ without loving the homosexual as your brother or sister." A Gay Catholic male said he was himself born-again but that Jesus accepted him. Falwell responded, "Homosexuality is moral perversion. The Bible will bear me out. In Romans 1, God himself calls it a reprobate relationship."

Britt concluded, "I happen to know there are millions of Gay men and women who are in loving relationships that are very beautiful. Most Americans are ready to listen to us, as they do in San Francisco." Turning to Falwell, he added, "I do not find it moral for someone to prejudge my lifestyle."

the spot. They all shook hands, and Al and Bud were family, legally as well as actually. The whole episode was brief, pleasant, and untroubling.

Now they are officially next of kin to each other with all the legal rights of inheritance. They also can act for each other in an emergency such as in the case of severe illness.

They elected to retain their individual names as part of their personal identities. Although the sound of Kohner-Smith had a certain flair to it, they decided on just adoption and not hyphenation.

During the ensuing Gay family celebration at the Castle Grand Brasserie, a friend toasted the happy pair with, "To Al and Bud: what could be more appropriate than adult adoption? It's the only thing left that you haven't done to each other or with each other in more than 19 years. This makes it complete."

Male Bonding: Updated

by Woolly

After living together for almost two decades, Al Kohner and Bud Smith decided to get adopted.

Now these guys aren't a couple of orphans of the storm, like Oliver asking for "More gruel, sir," or Annie belting out "Tomorra, Tomorra." They are long term lovers who have made a total commitment and become a legal family unit.

After hearing about adult adoption from visiting French Canadians, they investigated. How can it be done in California? It turns out to be amazingly easy. With the aid of attorney Ralph Petersen, the two San Francisco men drew up a brief, petitioning the Court for permission for Al to adopt Bud, the reason being that, "they wish to formalize the relationship of caring and

affection which has existed between them for over 19 years."

Soon after, came the summons to appear in Superior Court. It sounded formidable, like trial by jury with cross-examinations in the style of the Pulitzer case. At the appointed time, they waited outside of Court (the Family Division), amid a flock of combatants who appeared to be there for reasons of divorce, desertion, child neglect and matrimonial mayhem in general. What a way to begin.

When their turn came, they were shown into the judge's chamber rather than the courtroom. He asked if both men agreed to the petition and if the signatures thereon were theirs. When they answered affirmatively, he stated that he saw no reason why the request should not be granted and approved it on

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— Dr. James Curran, Center for Disease Control

The Kaposi's Sarcoma Research and Education Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit corporation organized in response to the outbreak in the Gay community of immune deficient diseases. The Foundation is dedicated to conducting or supporting efforts which accomplish the following:

- BASIC AND CLINICAL RESEARCH Studying the spread of these diseases and bringing new research techniques to bear to investigate factors which may be contributing to these diseases.
- PATIENT SERVICES Assuring that adequate financial resources are available for necessary diagnosis and treatment.
- PATIENT SUPPORT Coordinating appropriate referrals or provision of services for emotional and psychological support for Kaposi's and Pneumocystis patients.

PLEASE GIVE TODAY! We need your participation and we need your financial support. — Marcus A. Conant, M.D., President

Your regular United Way donation can be channeled to The Kaposi's Sarcoma Foundation by requesting a Donor Option Card and writing in Kaposi's Sarcoma Foundation.

Enclosed is my tax deductible donation for: \$10 \$20 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other

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I'd like to volunteer to help. Please contact me. Please make my check payable to The Kaposi's Sarcoma Foundation and return it with this form to 470 Castro Street, No. 207, Box 3360, San Francisco, CA 94114

QUICKIES!



A lone beat of a drum leads the Gay march down Market Street. (Photo: Wood)

Forward FLAG Corps

by Ron Kraus

The FLAG Corps (For Lesbians And Gays) continues to explode the myth that faggots and dykes cannot work and play together in the Gay community. At the recent fundraiser for *Coming Up*, the FLAG Corps gave its first performance since the Gay Games.

Nearly half of the corps' membership is women, and the participation of even more women is expected in the future. More men are welcome, too, as well as supportive straights. The next performance will be in conjunction with the Gay Band at the upcoming Chinese New Year's Parade in February.

Practices are currently held on Friday nights with the

band from 7:30-9:30 at 1519 Mission Street near Van Ness. No prior flag experience is necessary to join, just an interest in fun and friends.

Official FLAG Corps T-shirts will be available for \$6 during December. Profits from these sales will help pay for rehearsal space, uniforms, and flags. Periodic bake sales at 18th and Castro will also benefit the FLAG Corps, so be on the lookout.

Sponsors interested in supporting the FLAG Corps can contact Ralph Armitage at 891-7596. Past and/or present sponsors include Pilsner Inn, TRAX bar, Church St. Business Association, Artemis Cafe, and Front And Center Graphics. ■

Gay Seniors' Xmas Dance

The Second Annual Gay/Lesbian Senior Citizens' Christmas Tea Dance is planned for Saturday, December 11, from 2 to 5 p.m. The event, co-sponsored by the Golden Gate Business Association, G40+ Club, and Operation Concern, provides an opportunity for Gay men and Lesbians over 65 years of age to meet and dance to 1940's swing music — all quite a holiday, though, so be

in the mood.

Complimentary refreshments, door prizes, and entertainment will be provided. Everyone under or over 65 is welcome to join in the fun and dancing. Admission is \$1 for seniors and \$2 for non-seniors. The event will be held at Trinity Episcopal Church, located at 1666 Bush at Gough Street, San Francisco.

Georgia MCC Under Siege

For eight years the Metropolitan Community Church in Atlanta, GA, conducted the business of ministering to its 200-member Gay congregation without incident. Last March, however, a series of vandalism, phone threats, hate mail, and antagonizing

grafitti commenced against the church. Last month arsonists set fire to the converted movie theater. The building escaped structural damage and services have resumed at the original site. "Nobody is going to stop us," said Rev. Jimmy Brock.

Youth Group Forms

Sacramento youth will be pleased to learn a Gay group is forming just for them. First meeting is December 6. Bring your favorite dish, literal and/or figurative. Call Victor at 391-1362 or Charles at 739-0985 for info.

Coalition Fights Right

The 18-month old Coalition for Human Rights, an umbrella group of fifty organizations, is seeking to expand its membership and its agenda and it wants more Gays to join its fight against the New Right.

Carole Migden chaired the Coalition in its infancy, during which the organization sponsored the Family Protection Act Conference and, with Media Alliance, the Media

Conference for Lesbian/Gay Activists. Now the Coalition has a new executive board, headed by Randy Stallings and Diane Christensen, who wish to unify diverse interests to tackle injustices that hem in individual rights.

Meetings take place the third Wednesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. at New College, 777 Valencia. Call Diane Christensen at 864-3112 for more information.

Holiday Project

The Holiday Project announced this week the participation of San Francisco Sheriff Mike Hennessey as Bay Area Regional Honorary Chair for the 1982 Holiday Project. (A nonprofit charitable corporation, The Holiday Project gives people a chance to experience what the holidays are all about.)

It includes among its activities visits to hospitals, jails, and other institutions during the holiday season.

Teams of Holiday Project volunteers will deliver gifts and entertain residents at over 300 institutions in the Bay Area on Chanukkah and

Christmas; a schedule for the visits will be announced at a later date.

The participation of everyone in the Gay community is welcomed for all phases of the project, including gift wrapping and visits to institutions. For further information or to volunteer call Bill Bradley at the Holiday Project at (415) 945-2052.

Commented Sheriff Hennessey, "I commend the Holiday Project volunteers for bringing a bit of joy and happiness to those members of our community less fortunate than ourselves — those in jails, the hospitals, and all others who are away from home; and I urge everyone's support."



The Gay Color Guard commemorating the 4th anniversary of the assassination of Harvey Milk. (Photo: Wood)

STD Screening

The Health Department asks: "Have you been screened for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) in the past three months? If not, the staff of the Men's Clinic at Health Center #1 would like to remind you that NOW is the time for those who were screened in September to be re-screened."

Remember, it is recom-

mended that sexually active men be checked at least once every three months.

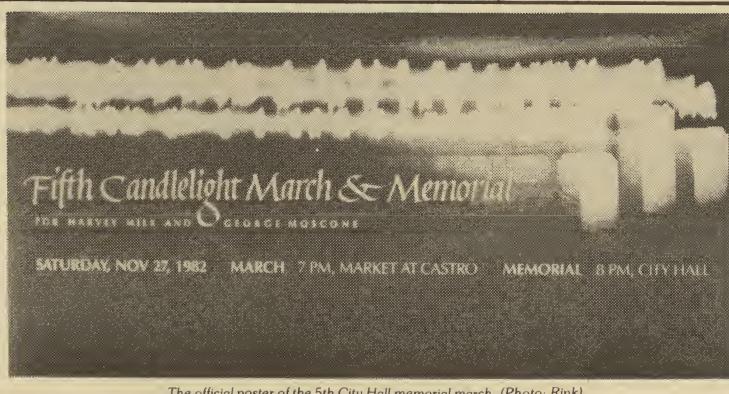
Screening is available at the Men's STD Clinic at Health Center #1, located at 3850 17th Street. Clinic hours are: Monday thru Thursday, 1:00 to 7:00 p.m.; Friday, 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. For more information, call 558-3905, M-F, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

KGO Radio

David Lamble

Now there are two David Lamble Talk Shows on KGO (FM 104). Gay Radio Live is heard on Saturday and Sunday evenings from 7:05 to 10 p.m. This Saturday from 7 to 10 David's guest is Paul Hardman and the subject is Gay history. Paul discusses an ancient word for homosexuals that is usually not translated in modern versions of the Bible.

Sunday night from 7:05 to 8 p.m. the guest is Margaret Cruikshank, editor of *The Lesbian Path*, an anthology of writings by Lesbians in the groves of academia. Among the questions to be answered are "Who hid Lesbian history?" Gay labor activist Howard Wallace rounds out the evening from 8:05 to 10 p.m. Howard will discuss where Gays are headed in the labor movement and why organized labor is likely to take a tougher stance in the coming year of Reaganomics. Listener call-ins are welcome at 928-0104.



The official poster of the 5th City Hall memorial march. (Photo: Rink)

Day Groups for Drug Abusers

Beginning the week of December 7, Eighteenth Street Services at 4130 18th Street will expand its services to offer a daytime group therapy program for Gay men with alcohol and/or drug problems. The new group will meet twice weekly and is designed to meet the needs of Gay men who are unable to attend evening group sessions due to work schedules.

For further information on the daytime group or other services, call 863-8111.

Peak Performance Through Weights

by Wayne April

Like every other nonprofit organization, the Shanti Project is scraping for bucks. That is why on Nov. 21 Shanti's founder, Dr. Charles Garfield, and his friend Mike Mentzer, a former Mr. Universe, held a paying workshop at the Pride Center, where their offices are located.

The subject was "peak performance" — what is it and how to get it, and it attracted about 100 genuine and would-be bodybuilders, both male and female. A crowd of about 75 showed up for the \$15 morning session, and less for the \$25 afternoon session. Apparently, many of the morning crowd lost interest when it became apparent that Mr. Mentzer was going to remain fully clothed for the workshop, contrary to what the enticing posters may have led people to believe.

Besides, it was apparent even without his clothes off that Mr. Mentzer was more of the Gold's Gym school of power lifting than he was of the City Athletic Club school of delicate body sculpturing.

This may all seem irrelevant to the Shanti Project's aim to help people cope with death, but in actuality, it isn't. Dr. Garfield, who founded Shanti in 1974 to meet a

need he saw at the UC Cancer Center where he worked, is a strong advocate of weight lifting for greater self-awareness and emotional strength. "Body building," said Garfield, "is a strong contributor to strengthening the mental and emotional state." The words "peak performance" and "peak productivity" in conjunction with weight lifting were to be used many times in the course of the day.

The fact that the workshop smacked just slightly of evangelical "I found It" preaching somehow didn't seem out of place in the former chapel of the former convent now Pride Center. Instead of the altar there was bench press with assorted weights scattered around, but St. Theresa and St. Elizabeth smiled down as beatifully as ever from their nearby stained-glass windows.

However, in place of the dictum "Gloria in Excelsis Deo" (Glory to God in the Highest), which was painted on the ceiling above, there should have been a cover sign that read, "Get Peak Performance by Tapping into Hidden Reserves," as espoused by Garfield and Mentzer. Where we search for inner strength seems to have shifted, and the shift was nowhere more apparent, nor ironic, than in this decommissioned House of God. ■

But, getting back to the subject, a lot of what Garfield and Mentzer said made sense. Garfield believes that too many people have no mission or commitment in life and are too concerned remaining in their "comfort zone" to do anything about it. These are not "achievers."

"I have been at the bedside of over 300 dying people," said Garfield, "and one of the most common things I heard them say was, 'There are so many things I wish I had done.'"

Weight lifting, of course, is advocated for the healthy and living, but Garfield says he has found that the face of death has spurred some to their own peaks of performance. There are cases where dying people have rallied by drawing on previously hidden reserves within themselves. This sometimes results in the "spontaneous remission" of their disease and the return of health.

"Spontaneous remission is a term doctors use when they have no idea why a disease disappeared," said Garfield.

Shanti recently finished training 20 new counseling volunteers. The organization now has 85 people offering their services to those facing life-threatening illnesses or bereavement. They served 800 people last year and are currently offering help to 40 Gay San Franciscans suffering from AIDS-related diseases and 25 to 30 of their lovers and relatives. ■

Mayor Sits On Spousal Rights

Mayor Dianne Feinstein remains noncommittal on the legislation to grant unmarried domestic partners of city employees health benefits. The measure was passed 8-3 by the Board of Supervisors. It takes eight votes to override a veto. The mayor's office states that she is "talking to people about it and studying it." If she does not veto the measure by December 9 it automatically becomes law.

The mayor told her Gay Advisory Committee this week that she should have been consulted before the legislation was introduced. She also said that a three year minimum relationship should be required rather than the 6 months to 1 year minimums in the ordinance.

The San Francisco Examiner telephoned 300 people last week to ask them their

views of the legislation. Fifty-seven percent said they favored it, while 51% said they think the mayor should sign it. When asked if the supervisors or the public should vote on the issue, 60% said the public and 28% the board. Among those asked about their sexual orientation 9% said they were Gay and in that group 91% said they were male. The Examiner concluded, "This suggests there are Lesbians out there who are more hesitant to answer this question over the phone." ■

'Examiner' Columnist Approves Gay Live-In Benefits Only

"If a married man wants his mate to receive the benefits that the city extends to wives of employees," SF Examiner columnist Guy Wright wrote last week, "he should marry the girl." He favored Gay spousal benefits because "it isn't any fault" of Gay people that they are homosexual and cannot legally marry.

Wright, commenting on a proposal by Supervisor Harry Britt that would extend spousal benefits to unmarried partners of city employees,

stressed that the alleged instability of Gay relationships was not valid. "After all," he urged, "many heterosexuals go through three or four divorces during a work career."

The columnist also reasoned that a married employee with a wife and five kids adds far more to the cost of a company health plan than a Gay couple, but we don't accept that as justification for refusing to hire married men."

Wright is generally considered conservative on most

issues. Some years ago he urged Gay bars to post signs outside saying they were Gay businesses so that heterosexual men would not accidentally go into one. In his recent commentary he concluded, "There may be some overpowering reason for denying fringe benefits to Gay partners," but so far I haven't heard it."

The November 21 column was a contrast to an editorial page comment in the same newspaper which attacked Britt for "making a cause célèbre" of the spousal rights issue and urged the Board of Supervisors to reject the measure. The Board approved it in an 8-3 vote.

Oil Co. Funds Hepatitis

Sohio Petroleum Company has awarded a grant of \$2,500 to The Resource Foundation to support its Knock Out Hepatitis B campaign. The grant will support The Resource Foundation's free screening, education and outreach program, and support services for persons with chronic hepatitis B.

"We are delighted that Sohio chose to support our fight against hepatitis B," says Richard Smith, Ph.D., Exec-

utive Director of The Resource Foundation. The Resource Foundation has screened more than 7,000 persons in 1982, detecting nearly 700 active cases of hepatitis B. Free screening for hepatitis B is available Monday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Screening through a private physician would cost \$25 to \$50. ■

The Resource Foundation's B-Group meets each Tuesday evening at 7:30 p.m. at the Metropolitan Community Church. This valuable program, directed by Peter Goldblum and Joseph Brewer, Ph.D., provides psychological support and social alternatives to individuals with chronic hepatitis B.

For information about The Resource Foundation, call (415) 864-0550. ■

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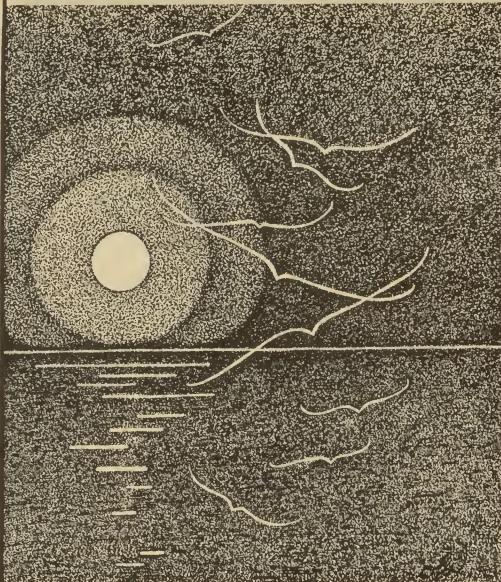


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POLITICS AND PEOPLE**Sacramento Trend**

WAYNE FRIDAY

Democratic Party at next month's Demo convention, and San Franciscan Lia Belli is expected to announce soon that she will be a candidate for a second term as president of the California Democratic Council.

The Insult of the Week: Crown Books, the latest of the chain stores to hit the Castro, has what they call a "Gay Interest" section in their store with a grand total of 16 different books of supposed interest to Gays. (And this is their idea of serving the Castro Gay community?) . . . Regular meeting of the Stonewall Gay Demo Club this coming Monday (December 6, 7:30) at the Women's Building on 18th Street . . . Gay activists hoping that incoming Governor Deukmejian will keep Jerry Brown's executive order regarding employment for Gay state workers in effect.

Look for new Assemblyman Gray Davis, former Brown chief of staff, to play a high-profile negotiator's role between the Democratic controlled legislature and the Republican governor's office under the new administration (Deukmejian's key political advisors are already consulting the sharp Davis on a nearly day-to-day basis, especially concerning the transition) . . . Now that the election is over, can we expect to be seeing the new Lt. Governor (McCarthy) and the new Attorney General (Van de Kamp) appoint upfront Gays and/or Lesbians to staff positions? (Some political pundits are already predicting these two will be fighting it out for the Demo nomination for governor four years hence and will be using their upcoming terms to position themselves for the nomination.)

Meanwhile, L.A. political writers are predicting that Tom Bradley will make another run for mayor of that city with the intention of running again for governor in 1986, thereby probably canceling out the immediate plans of popular city council president Joel Wachs to run for mayor. Incidentally, among the many who had planned on important jobs in Sacramento had Bradley won was former San Jose Mayor Janet Gray Hayes, who would have had a high-visibility role in the Bradley administration . . . And Gay activists in Philadelphia are admittedly worried that former anti-Gay Mayor Frank Rizzo is headed for a political comeback in the Pennsylvania city. Rizzo, a former reactionary police chief in that city is expected to make the recently enacted Gay employment ordinance an issue.

Some of Mayor Feinstein's critics are complaining that the \$75,000 she committed last week to alleviate the immediate crisis of housing for San Francisco's homeless is not nearly enough (\$60,000 was earmarked for Hospitality House and another \$15,000 goes to the YMCA to provide rooms for homeless street people for the next couple of months) . . . Look for Speaker Willie Brown to appoint Assemblyman Art Agnos as

(Continued on next page)



Supervisor Hongisto and his wife, and Supervisors Molinari and Renne at candlelight march for Harvey Milk. (Photo: Wood)

The Democratic Party caucus to elect members of the Demo State Central Committee to represent San Francisco at the Democratic state convention being held in January in Sacramento will be held this Sunday, December 5. The 17th District caucus takes place at 240 Golden Gate Avenue; the 16th District's will be held at Glide Church (voting begins at 2 p.m., but you must register prior to that) — a number of Gay and Lesbian activists expected to seek committee seats in both districts — please turn out Sunday to give these candidates your support.

Last week's appearance by Supervisor Wendy Nelder before the regular meeting of the Harvey Milk Gay Demo Club brought expected hostilities between the liberal club and the conservative Board President-elect (the night be-

Incidentally, Herb Caen this week predicted what this column has been saying all along — Nelder will announce for mayor against Dianne Feinstein next year — and can you wait?

The politicos who showed up for last Saturday's Milk-Moscone Memorial March were Supervisors Hongisto, Molinari, Renne, and Silver; Sheriff Mike Hennessey; D.A. Arlo Smith, and Senator Milton Marks. (Supervisor Harry Britt was among the evening's speakers, as was Jennifer Moscone, daughter of the murdered former mayor.) The march, incidentally, was filmed by the production crew filming the movie from Randy Shilts book *The Mayor of Castro Street*.

Friends of Supervisor Richard Hongisto are holding a



A happy Wendy Nelder here wasn't so happy after her Milk Demo experience. See full story on page 9. (Photo: Rink)

fore Nelder was one of only three superes to vote against Harry Britt's spousal benefits plan). Nelder blew it by losing her temper when it was suggested by someone in the audience that perhaps homophobia might have played a part in her vote and snapped that she "didn't have to stand here and take this" and stormed out of the meeting. As one Milk member put it, "Did she really think that phony smile of hers would carry her through this one?"

birthday cocktail party for the popular super at the Hyatt Regency on December 16 (5:30 to 7:30) to help pay off his campaign debt (\$100; 621-5443 for tickets and info) . . . Senator-elect Pete Wilson in San Francisco this past weekend having a post-election dinner with some of his local supporters . . . Last week's recount confirmed Bill Maher as the city's newest supervisor . . . Peter Kelley of the Manatt law firm expected to become state chair of the California

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Stonewall Hears Gay Attorneys

Legal battles for Gay rights will be discussed by three leading Gay/Lesbian attorneys at Stonewall's next meeting on Monday, December 6, at 7:30 p.m. in the Women's Building. "Gay Rights in the Courts" will be the program, with Leonard Graff of National Gay Right Advocates, Roberta Achtenberg of Lesbian Rights Project, and Mary Dunlap, who led the successful suit against the Immigration Service in the Carl Hill case. The event was put together by Norman Nickens, Stonewall's new Political Vice President, who will chair that part of the program.

The club will elect a new Treasurer to replace Don Gordon, who has resigned for reasons of health. Other matters to be discussed will be the Christmas party, and the benefit preview of Charles Busch, a major new Gay entertainer, at Valencia Rose on Thursday, January 6, at

8 p.m. Tickets for this Stonewall benefit preview can be bought from Stonewall officers at \$5 and are expected to sell out early.

Stonewall meets the first Monday of the month at the Women's Building, and its Executive Board meets the following Friday at 159-A Noe Street at 6 p.m. All are welcome at all Stonewall meetings, though voting is limited to members on most questions.

Unitarian Dinner

The Unitarian Gay and Lesbian Caucus is having its seventh annual festive Holiday extravaganza on Saturday, December 4, at 6 p.m. in the Star King Room of the Unitarian Church at Geary and Franklin Streets. It's early this year to avoid later holiday conflicts. It's pot luck style.

Info: 468-4548.

Murder in Chicago's North Side

On October 24, two men, Stanley E. Cox and Joseph Hall, stepped out of North Chicago's Loading Dock bar, walked around the corner and into a dark stairwell to smoke a joint. Upon finishing the joint and descending the stairs, both men were shot twice by a single assailant. Cox was pronounced dead upon arrival at the Illinois Masonic Medical Center at 8:50 PM, Hall was taken to Weiss Memorial Hospital where he is listed in good condition.

Sergeant Pat Ward of the district said the shootings were "not a common occurrence at all" in the neighborhood. Police are now looking for an Hispanic male, 20 to 25 years old, 5'6", 130 lbs. A memorial fund has been established for Cox.

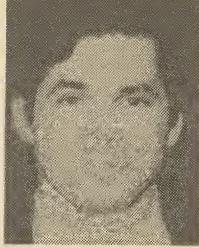
POLITICS

(Continued from previous page)



Tom Ammiano seeks Mayor's nod to School Board opening. (Photo: Rink)

chair of the Legislative Audit Committee in the Assembly . . . The Harvey Milk, Stonewall, and Toklas Demo clubs have all urged Mayor Feinstein to appoint Gay activist/school teacher Tom Ammiano to the Board of Education to replace Supervisor-elect Bill Maher . . . Look for



Bill Maher confirmed as the newest supervisor. Maher was endorsed by the Bay Area Reporter.

Toklas vice president Randy Stallings to run for president of Alice in January. On the same beat, some are telling me that two-term president Gwenn Craig wants to run — again — for yet another term as president of the Milk Demos. (Ron Huberman is



Dick Hongisto throws first post-election funder. (Photo: Rink)

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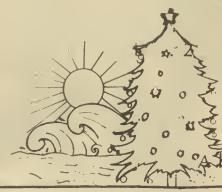
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SFPD Fires Gay Cop

(Continued from Page 1)

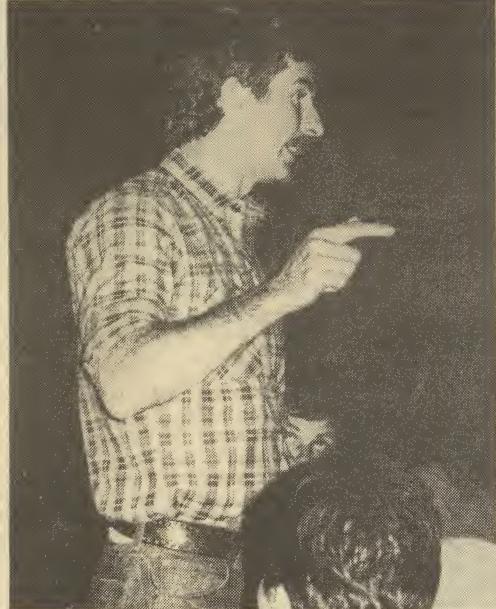
put out on the street with training officers. A rookie is graded every day in 30 different categories. Taylor had three training officers, each for a month and back to the first trainer for a culminating two weeks. Taylor firmly believes that the deck was stacked against him from the first.

Only by a court decision was the decorated Vietnam veteran permitted to begin the police academy. Academy officials, when they discovered his war history and post-battle psychological problems, rejected his candidacy. Taylor was then sent to psychiatrists who declared him fit for police duty. By this time Taylor had secured the help of Gay activist attorney Matt Coles, who was in and out of court advancing Taylor's candidacy. The case caught the attention of the press and only a final court order forced the police academy to put Taylor through. He said he gave it his best. The 35-year old veteran scored third high academically in a class of 36. He was the oldest in his class and also rated tops in athletic abilities.

Everyone knew Taylor was a Gay activist and that he was a marked man from the start. He said he scrupulously followed every directive and did his best. Once assigned to a station he said he would arrive an hour early and stayed later than his shift to be sure everything was in tip-top shape. Taylor said, "I made my share of mistakes — but nothing major. At the same time, I did some outstanding police work." Taylor related one incident when he helped revive a woman who had been thought dead. A thankful attorney relative wrote to Taylor's station captain urging that the rookie be recommended. Taylor was never informed of the communication (which is routine) and he never received a commendation for his outstanding work.

not out. "I have witnessed straight white males — those with connections — sail through the program. Like other minorities and women, they have been on my case from day one."

Most unsuccessful candidates resign when urged or pressured — leaving the field still open for a possible career in law enforcement elsewhere. By sticking it out until he was terminated, Taylor has closed all doors to future po-



Randy Taylor explains his difficulties as an SFPD cadet to one of the Gay political clubs. (Photo: Rink)

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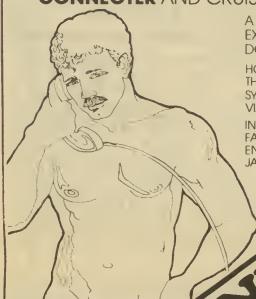
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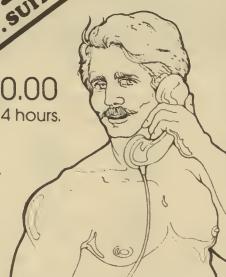
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Canadians Out to Oust NGTF Director

(Continued from Page 1)

Toronto spokespeople if bringing up the matter to the U.S. and international press wasn't an attempt to discredit Campbell. Rosenquist's response was that his people feel that

Campbell has lost credibility north of the border and his 1400-member organization wants other people to know it.

Canadians are wont to be highly sensitive to being ig-

nored by Americans, and their annoyance over NGTF's not responding immediately seems to have prompted them to go on the press attack. They have contacted press around the nation and overseas with a special delivery press packet. And suddenly people are paying attention — this paper included.

When contacted by the Bay Area Reporter at his Miami, Florida, home, Campbell said he had not seen the Toronto press release but had heard about it from NGTF's Jose Gomez and several Gay newspapers.

However, he did not accede to the Canadians' inferences that he bore a culpability. He countered, "I wonder how much of the defense budget was spent air expressing around the world hit pieces on myself."

Campbell said that the Club Baths in Toronto had contributed funds to the defense fund for those arrested. He readily admitted that he still owns 40% of the Club Toronto. In addition, he holds 30% of Toronto's Barracks, 30% of Club Ottawa, and a lesser percentage of Club Vancouver.

He concluded, "I think there is something rotten in the province of Ontario." ■

Paul Lorch



Toronto uniformed and undercover police lead away found-ins arrested in the bath raids of February 5, 1981. In one evening, police hit 4 bathhouses and charged over 300 men as found-ins and keepers of common bawdy houses. Jack Campbell, currently NGTF Treasurer, later pled guilty to charges arising from the raids. (Photo courtesy 'The Body Politic')

Glenn Burke, Major Leaguer

by Steve Warren

As highly prized as an artificial macho image is in the Gay male community, the tru machismo of the Gay athlete has until recently been held in low esteem. Glenn Burke, former outfielder for the Los Angeles Dodgers and Oakland A's, sees that changing.

"It is there," he says of the anti-sports attitude among Gays. "All of them might have been athletes... and they just shied away from it... the 'Olympics' (Gay Game I) has helped a lot of people." Gays, according to Glenn, are discovering sports events as a place to get together outside of work and bars; and suddenly "everybody wants to do something (athletic)."

Burke played on the winning softball and basketball teams in the Gay Games, while at the same time his softball team, the Pendulum Pirates, was winning the Gay World Series. "I was a tired motherfucker," he grins, recalling that week of triple victory. Contrary to the philosophy of Gay Games founder Dr. Tom Waddell, who stresses the importance of competing, win or lose, Burke insists, "the winning was important."

Since coming out in an article in the October issue of *Inside Sports*, Burke has become the Dave Kopay of baseball and has found himself a celebrity again, though not in the same way as when he was in the major leagues.

He sees this as a mixed blessing. "I'm not on a big fame thing," he says. "I don't want to be a spokesman for the Gay community because I don't want to get into the politics of it." He also feels our community is too diverse to be represented by one person.

On the other hand, he doesn't mind expressing his own views and using his forum to fight the stereotypes that still exist in the minds of the outside world: "I think it's time for straight people to understand Gay people better. We're gonna be here until the world ends, so we're gonna all have to learn to get along..."

"They can use me as an example for the Gay community," Glenn says. He's willing to be the positive role model he never had when he was struggling with his own sexual identity, and to show that there's more to Gay life than the porn, pleasure and poppers that get so much publicity.

Talking with Burke I feel that I could almost write this article without doing the interview. On most subjects other than sports our thoughts are remarkably alike, even though we were born ten years apart on opposite coasts into skins of different color.

His birthplace was Oakland but he was raised in Berkeley. He played little league baseball in Oakland and basketball in Berkeley.

Being black was never a problem for Burke. Oakland has a large black population and Berkeley was progressive

about integration. "I grew up free," he smiles.

From his own observations Glenn doesn't believe black Gays face acceptance problems with people of their own color: "I seen black boys at school who were real effeminate — but they could fight. If someone backed

had become more than he cared to deal with.

The season-plus in Oakland had been good in many ways. Even the duality was fun because he had friends in both worlds. The non-Gays would turn out to watch him play. Sometimes he would party with them afterwards, and other times he would go over to Castro Street to socialize with his fellow Gays.

After the *Inside Sports* story appeared one of his non-Gay friends called Burke's mother and said,

"It's a three-way street: the way you see it, the way I see it, and the way it is."

them into a corner they would kick ass!"

After playing with the A's for the remainder of 1978 and half of the next season Burke took a "voluntary retirement" and stayed away for the rest of 1979. He went back briefly in 1980 and was sent to the minors after suffering a torn cartilage in spring training. Finally he quit altogether. Things weren't falling into place for him and the strain of leading a double life

"You tell Glenn I love him anyway. He'll always be my buddy."

If he were still playing for the A's Glenn thinks there would be a lot more Gays in the stands. As it is they're turning out in greater numbers for the softball games he plays in.

While he could name some other Gay athletes in the major leagues, Glenn won't. Nor will he pressure them to



come out. "They have to do it themselves. My only advice to them is, when you're ready to do it, do it; if you're not ready, don't. It's the ultimate test... When you are ready,

give me a call; I might be able to help you out."

Burke's former lover Mike Smith is the founder of the

(Continued on next page)

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Burke

(Continued from previous page)

nationwide organization Black and White Men Together (BWMT), which started as a newsletter in 1980. Glenn has participated in the group's activities but hasn't been involved in a leadership capacity, although it's been suggested that he speak at next year's BWMT convention in Chicago.

Racism in the Gay community troubles Burke. "Bartenders say black people don't tip," he says. "Well, some of them don't have the money for tips, they just have enough for their drinks... You never see any black bartenders, even though they play the black music in the bars... They'll sell the drinks to them but they don't want to hire 'em. I don't know what else to call that but racism." It seems as if he could go further and talk about bars that try to exclude blacks entirely, but he says he's never encountered it himself and doesn't know of anyone else who has recently.

Sex didn't really enter his life until he was 22. "I grew up being taught that sex was wrong outside of marriage... I wasn't attracted to men or women... I knew I was different but didn't understand why... I didn't know or care about the Gay world... I wasn't interested in sex so I wasn't trying to figure out if I was straight or Gay."

The Dodgers drafted Glenn when he was 19, and he began an impressive career in the minor leagues. That's where he learned about racism which, contrary to popular opinion, didn't end with Jackie Robinson.

"A black man has to do a lot more to make it in the major leagues," Burke says. "First they send you to small towns where there's nobody but white people around. You have to learn to adapt to the white people, and they set special rules for you... You can't wear your hair in an Afro... you don't mess with the white girls... and they only allow a certain number of black on each team."

After three seasons Glenn was brought out by one of his former high school teachers. He discovered what he was and he soon discovered the playground that was San Francisco. He also discovered love in the person of Mike Smith, the same Michael J. Smith who would later write his story for *Inside Sports*. They met in 1974 on Smith's thirtieth birthday and were together for four years. They're still close friends.

With all those other discoveries, Burke also discovered the difficulty of reconciling his Gayness with his baseball career. His outgoing personality had always made him the life of the party; now he wanted to leave his teammates behind sometimes and slip away to find his own party.

When they eventually learned about him the other Dodgers were surprised. None could remember any incidents of Glenn staring in the shower or looking at them the wrong way in the locker room, although they nervously and needlessly started covering up around him when the word got out. "I never mixed sex with the people I played ball with," he states matter-of-factly. "I had respect for my atmosphere. I wasn't the type to dog it, to

say 'I could fuck everybody.'"

Burke's sex life has always been more about quality than quantity, with the accent on conversation instead of conquest. "I'd rather know a man mentally or verbally (than by having sex with him)."

Contrary to what the *Inside Sports* story said, Burke doesn't believe it would necessarily be "dangerous" for teammates to have an affair. "It could happen and it would probably be safer" than sneaking out to bars as he did. "I never flaunted it. I wouldn't have flaunted a woman if I had had one either."

Despite Glenn's discretion the news began spreading during 1977, his first full season with the Dodgers; but nothing was said to him as the team went on to the World Series, which they lost to the New York Yankees.

In May of 1978 Burke was traded to the A's. While he could never prove it, he believes his Gayness was the reason. Still he holds no grudge and roots for the Dodgers. "The only problem," he says, "was (Dodger manager Tommy) Lasorda pickin' on me." He doesn't think the A's knew about him when he joined their team. "The talk doesn't get around that much between the American League and the National League because they don't get together that often."

Being traded at that point disappointed Glenn, he says, because "I didn't prove what I set out to do"; but it had the compensation of bringing him home to Oakland. "I knew how to get around and function there. I liked being closer to my family and friends, and it ended a lot of frustration."

Burke's family has always been supportive of him, and

he believes the same is true of most black families with Gay children: "A lot of white families disown their children when they find out they're Gay, they don't want to have anything to do with them. There's only one black person I know of that that ever happened to... I think it has to do with, the white parents say, 'You're a disgrace to our good name'; but how many blacks do you know that have 'names'?"

Part of the message Glenn hopes to get across to the world while the spotlight stays on him concerns the avoidance of labels. "There's good and bad in every group," he says rightly. "When you put the sex ('Gay' or 'straight') in front of the person you miss the person..."

"Everybody's an individual, some more than others. Some feel they have to go along with what's happening, like we used to think that men had to marry women... It's a three-way street: the way you see it, the way I see it and the way it is."

The fourth decade of his life is just beginning — Glenn turned 30 on November 16 — and with luck it will be less eventful than the last decade. He's living in Guerneville with his present lover Cloy Jenkins, who owns The Willows resort.

Burke's ambition is to finish college and become a basketball coach. He doesn't think his sexuality will hinder his work with young people as long as he's open about it: "If I teach kids it won't be sex."

If everyone were as open as Glenn Burke, none of us would have any problems. Anyone with his attitude — or lack of attitude — will always be a major-leaguer in my book.

Steve Warren



Friend of Castro and Catholic Gays, Father Kevin Cuchalian Moriarty.

Castro Pastor Dies

A Requiem Mass will be offered for Father Kevin Cuchalian Moriarty at 10 a.m. Friday, December 3, at St. Mary's Cathedral, San Francisco, followed by a reception at the Irish Cultural Center, Sloat Blvd. and 45th Ave.

Father Moriarty, 62, pastor of Most Holy Redeemer parish, San Francisco, died November 30, 1982.

Father Moriarty was assigned as pastor of Most Holy Redeemer parish (18th and Eureka) because he specifically asked Archbishop John Quinn to work with Latino and Gay people. He was an effective advocate for justice within both communities.

As pastor he welcomed many Gay people into responsible positions in the parish. As Chairman of the Commission on Social Justice of the San Francisco Archdiocese, he joined the unanimous vote of the Commission in its acceptance and support of "Homosexuality and Social Justice," the report of the Commission's Task Force on Gay/Lesbian Issues.

BAY AREA REPORTER

GREATER BAY NEWS

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OAKLAND

Step Up, Step Down

APERCU (A Noting Nose?)

The Official Robing . . . Sunday evening, last November 21, at Upp's At The Square, King Father and Queen Mother (Mikki and Jean) and the Grand Duke and Grand Duchess were invested to their thrones of honor . . . even though the current/ex/persona non grata/or whatever, Queen Mother Lady Garnet, has as yet to make her official "stepping down."

It was a well-attended affair and this fete was eagerly accepted by the "straight" establishment. Their staff and management must be congratulated on the zealousness on their part to please this group. Everyone in attendance was even invited to return the following Wednesday to help celebrate the owner's birthday!

It will remain to be seen what these four latest "monarchs" can and will do for this diverse and seemingly "separated" Oakland . . . nay, Alameda County.

It's a shame that no part of Oakland seems immune, as it were . . . this festive event was marred by two cars being broken into . . . and, at The Square, yet!

* * *

Pre-Thanksgiving Feast . . . The evening immediately following the Investiture was the turkey buffet at the Lake Merritt Hotel to benefit the Oakland Pompons, who won the Best Marching Corps award from the Cable Car Awards for their efforts in the 1982 Gay Freedom Day Parade.

Not only was the extensive buffet eaten up by the crowd, but so was the entertainment! Hats off and kudos must go to (in alphabetical order) April, Carmen, Cha Cha, Connie, Llari, Kathy, Manuel, Natasha, Nova, and Sandy. Special guest performances were provided by Lennie, JoAnna, Carme, and Mr. Male Exotic — Chocolate Thunder — Gary McCray.

This was one time that the entertainment proceeded swiftly and smoothly from one act to another, with just the slightest of hitches. It was a welcome change from some of the "scenes" presented to us before.

The Pompon routine and "Backstage Review" finalized the night's festivities . . . leaving everyone with a satisfied tummy, slaked thirst, and seraphic tinglings!

The energy and enthusiasm exhibited by the Oakland Pompons should definitely propel them to greater honors in next year's parade in San Francisco.

CONCOMITANCE (A Together Nose?)

Black and White Men Together (East Bay) has formed in Oakland. They held their first Thanksgiving dinner, "A Thankful Beginning," on Thanksgiving Eve, November 24.

This new group will be holding a "rap" on Monday, December 6, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be at 455 Crescent St., #114, in Oakland. Anyone interested in at-

NEZ PAS

tending or receiving further information may call 221-8641 (days, Bill Jones), 763-7264, or 763-2981.

A similar group in San Francisco has done extremely well, and it is hoped that the East Bay will make this local contingent just as viable.

SOIREE (A Party Nose?)

The East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club is holding a Holiday Party this Saturday, December 4, starting at 8 p.m. There will be dancing, refreshments, and a no-host bar.

The suggested donation is \$3, but no one will be turned away. The festivities will be at 2916 Grove St. in Berkeley (1/2 block from Ashby BART).

* * *

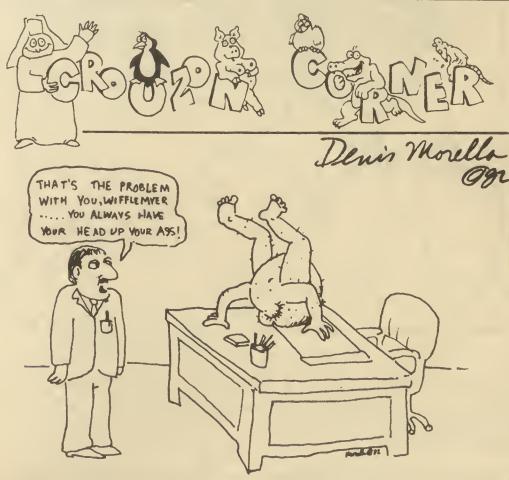
Now that "Turkey Day" is over for another year, we can look forward to a "season to be jolly!" Every one of our watering holes will soon be festooning themselves with the decorations of Christmas, and I'm sure that many "spur of the moment" parties will be on the agenda. Check them all out, lest you miss something really fun! Now, more than ever . . . 'tis the season to wear your smile!

Love,

Nez



A huge check for the KS Foundation was turned over to Bob Ross at the recent Tavern Guild meeting in Hayward. Notables included (l. to r.) Revol manager John Hauser, Tavern Guild prez Big Mama, Big Mama's manager Jim Houghton, Bob Ross, and ACIE Emperor Frank "Frumpy" Frommelt. Ross conveyed the check to the KS Foundation in San Francisco. (Photo: Rink)



Calvary MCC Christmas Bazaar

On Saturday, December 4, Calvary MCC in Redwood City will sponsor its second Christmas Bazaar. Homemade baked goods, handmade gift items, specialty booths, door prize, and two raffles will headline the event. Santa will even be available for on-the-spot pictures. The Bazaar runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 2124 Brewster Ave. (corner of Lowell St.) in Redwood City. Soup and salad lunch will be available at a truly unbelievable low price. Finish your Christmas shopping with something special.

Curriculum Aid Sought

UC Berkeley Gay Courses

The Gay and Lesbian Union, the Office of the Student Advocate, and the Office of Academic Affairs at the University of California at Berkeley are currently working to develop and establish a Community Based Multi-Cultural Gay Studies Program.

They are in the initial stages of this project and are in need of suggestions, advice, bibliographies, syllabi and course materials that have been developed and/or used in teaching Gay classes. They are also interested in speaking with and receiving letters from people who are interested in such a project, but have not taught classes or developed syllabi. Of particular interest and need are input suggestions, materials, articles, etc., by and about Third World Lesbians, Gay men and bisexuals. "Materials" includes newspaper clippings, photographs, newsletters, stories, letters, collections of letters, tapes of events or friends talking, etc. They want the program to be Multi-Cultural and Community Based: one which will serve to help meet the needs of Lesbians, Gay

men and bisexuals, both on campus and off. Third World and white, working class and middle class. They would also appreciate names and means of contacting individuals and organizations who could be of help to them.

The University program for Gays will be Multi-Cultural and Community-based.

Additionally they are seeking similar materials, suggestions and advice which could be used to integrate already existing classes in all fields of study which render Lesbians, Gay men and bisexuals invisible.

Information, materials, suggestions and advice can be sent to: Margaret Krouskoff, Office of the Student Advocate, 314 Eshleman Hall, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720. Call Krouskoff at 642-6912, or Graeme Perry at the Gay and Lesbian union, 642-6942 on Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Thursdays from 1 to 5 p.m.

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SAN JOSE: FROM THE ROSEGARDEN

Bye, Bye, Board

TOM ROGERS

This was not an easy week for the Board of Directors of the Billy DeFrank Lesbian & Gay Community Center. They were confronted with the resignations of Bill Holzinger as their Switchboard Coordinator, Amber Lees as a Shift Manager, Bob Contano as a Shift Manager and Donna Henderson as a Shift Manager and Director of the Center. All the resignations were for "personal reasons."

Lees and Contano will continue to serve on the Board of Directors, but Henderson and Holzinger's resignations were from all Center functions. Henderson's resignation becomes effective December 31st. Holzinger's immediately. The Board of Directors was unprepared to announce specific plans for Henderson's replacement at their monthly meeting last Monday night, announcing that they would defer action on replacing her until their meeting next month.

Henderson's resignation coupled with the other resignations deals an uncomfortable hand to the Center's Board. Her degree of organization helped tie the volunteer effort together to produce a smoothly operating service organization upon which San Jose's gay community is beginning to rely heavily (it served 5,000 people last year).

The recruitment and training of a replacement of a Switchboard Coordinator will begin immediately, to help keep that essential service operative.

Not all of the news was bad for the Center's Board, however. A man by the name of Robert Barth telephoned the Center during the Board Meeting to donate a TR6 to the Center, suggesting that they could use it as an auction item in their on-going fund-raising efforts. He should know that his generosity produced some bright smiles, removing some of the gloom that had dominated the meeting to that point.

In another Center-related development, KNTV (CH 11) contacted Henderson for Gay Community participation in a news magazine show. The show is to feature local reaction to the use of aversion therapy to "cure" homosexuality. (This therapy is a brainchild of a psychologist in Utah.) Board member Mary Ann Sullivan was selected as spokesperson for the Center in the show, and Dr. Paul Walker of San Francisco was recommended by the Center to Channel 11 as one of the most knowledgeable specialists locally. This was to be filmed last Friday night for broadcast on December 28th.

★ ★ ★

Appropriately, Big Michael (bartender at Main Street, mainly), won the "Giant Turkey" raffle at the 641. He cooked it up for Jack Britton, Randy Johnson and crowd. Other Thanksgiving celebrations around town included those at Kevan's, Renegades, Savoy, the Community Center and in private homes such as Mark Dalton and lover Richard's, David Treadwell and Frank O'Reilly's and Don Queen and Tony Or-

lando's. (There are those who would say Tony Orlando and Don's, but somebody's gotta have that combo copywritten). I went to Don and Tony's. Bill Knox brought munchies and his best story-telling style, Jerry Keenan apple pie (with kiwi fruit!) and his quick wit, Billy his pipe, Larry the corn, Jim his cane and all eleven of us our appetites for food and partying. Don, incidentally, produced a lesson in turkey-cooking technology. It seems that it's the little button that pops out when the turkey's done. (I guess you had to be there...) ★ ★ ★



One of them impersonated Marilyn and the other a man . . . "Marilyn II" and "Diamond John," members of the San Jose Royal Court, at the recent MARILYN Party in San Francisco. (Photo: Rink)

Sunday the 21st was treated by San Jose as if it was going to be the last on the calendar. Empress Darlene and Emperor Dennis hosted "A Fair" at Toyon with dime tossing, kissing booth, musical chairs and an auction that raised \$700 in total. There were two birthday celebrations that same day. One was for Jerry O'Keefe, owner of the 641. Getting down to all the bare facts except his actual age, Jerry's party featured cake, champagne and strippers. A collective Birthday party was thrown for all the employees of the Watergarden by one of their regulars. Strippers aren't news there, but cake and champagne are. Early evening turned political, with the SCVCHR's fundraiser at the spacious home of Frank O'Reilly and David Treadwell.

The function was the kickoff money-raiser for the newly created Legal Defense Fund, and the organization requested a \$10 donation from each guest. Two guests arrived together and brusquely announced that they wouldn't pay unless they were "forced to," laying claim to press privileges. Not one member had a crowbar or knucklebuster so they got in free. This, however, is standard operating procedure for the press. Cover charges and donations to causes (no matter how worthy) could

quickly impoverish the average conscientious reporter. (Experience speaking). What raised eyebrows was the fact that their paper sent them to the function at all. Their paper has been conspicuously silent on the activities of the SCVCHR — something that smacks of political sibling jealousy — and more conspicuously silent on the establishment of the Legal Defense Committee. Later in the week when the newest issue of their paper was published, there wasn't one word about the SCVCHR event. There was a perhaps concessionary nod to the value of Legal Defense Funds, however, in their coverage of a report (entitled "Anti-Gay Legislation: An Attempt to Sanction Inequality?") that was just published by the New York-based Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund. Perhaps their paper's next issue will carry more localized information on the subject.

at Main Street last Saturday night was fabulous. The entertainment was provided by a band called "Best of Both Worlds," which you may remember from the KS Fundraisers last month in Hayward... I also missed the brunch and carwash held last Sunday at the Savoy. This was a fundraiser for the Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center. One final note — Main Street is the site for bingo games on Monday nights. The place is jammed — competition for the \$200 plus black-out bingo prize.

Go hug your pet and have a great week! ■

Peninsula Dates

Saturday, 12/4: A Gathering of Men, 7p.m., BDL&G Community Center, 86 Keyes, San Jose.

Leatherman's Rap, 7p.m., Community Center.

Organizational Meeting, Leather Club, 8p.m. on the Boot Rack patio.

Sunday, 12/5: Gay AA, 10a.m., Community Center.

Gay Young Adults, 1:30p.m., Community Center.

Sunday Cinema, 7p.m., Community Center.

Casa Brunch, Noon at The Interlude.

Monday, 12/6: Casa Board Meeting, 7:30p.m., Community Center.

Gay Toastmasters, 6p.m., Community Center.

Tuesday, 12/7: Free VD, Blood Pressure Screening, Community Center.

Slightly Older Lesbians, 7p.m., Community Center.

Wednesday, 12/8: Lesbian Rap, 7p.m., Community Center.

Thursday, 12/9: Men's Support Group, 7p.m., Community Center.

Friday, 12/10: Womyn's Coffeehouse, 8p.m., Community Center.

SCVCHR Fundraiser A Success

Britt Speaks to Activists

by Tom Rogers

A fundraiser held at the home of SCVCHR Board members Frank O'Reilly and David Treadwell in San Jose last week was termed a success in generating support for the SCVCHR's newly established Legal Defense Fund.

Constance Carpenter and O'Reilly, SCVCHR Co-Chairs, outlined the events that led to the formation of the fund (and the standing committee that will administer to it), to members of the local press, attorneys and activists, some of whom have been actively involved with the downtown bookstore situation through the Fair Police Practices Committee.

San Francisco County Supervisor Harry Britt, invited as the fundraiser's guest of honor, cited the importance of political organization during his address to the group of about thirty people.

Expressing regret that the SCVCHR's effort to secure

Gay rights ordinances through the A&B initiatives failed two years ago, Britt pointed out that, while such ordinances are desirable, they do not erase discrimination.

"It's an unfortunate fact of life that the only way we and any other minority group can effectively protect our rights is to demonstrate strong political organization to government agencies and legislators. The only thing they recognize is visible strength," he said.

Britt, whose speaking schedule has taken him to fifteen cities in the past few months, was invited as a result of his controversial negotiations with the San Francisco Police Department. Board members of the SCVCHR, whose immediate concern is defense of some of the 700 Gays who've allegedly suffered entrapment arrests in the downtown "clean-up" by San Jose police, felt that Britt was best suited to draw local activists who are interested in seeing an end to discriminatory police action. ■

JIMMY

NO, I'LL PASS
ON THE ORGY,
SHOW ME
THE VIDEO
NEXT WEEK.



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Coming next week — the premiere appearance of cartoons by James Moore and Dick Kirchberger.

BAY AREA REPORTER

ENTERTAINMENT

TAGE SCREEN SHOWS ROCK OPERA INTERVIEWS BOOKS MUSIC THE ARTS STAGE SCREEN SHOWS ROCK OPERA INTERVIEWS BOOKS MUSIC THE ARTS STAGE SCREEN

BOOK RACK

Familiar Pain and Ache

A Comfortable Corner
By Vincent Virga
Avon - \$3.50, paperback

"We stopped going out. Like everyone else caught in an alcoholic marriage, we closed in on ourselves and the disease flourished. We became more and more obsessed with the drinking. It was the focus of our lives. It was our lives."

With missionary zeal my lover and I visited a Gay alcoholic as part of a counseling program. We soon learned that such visits are a basic error in dealing with those enslaved with demon rum. Our friend, sprawled on a double bed in a darkened back bedroom, swore through his pathetic stupor that he would come to the meetings for Gay alcoholics. He put in one appearance, but then vanished

forever. Our mistake was simple: The booze-hound must travel to you and make the effort on his own. Otherwise he will endlessly manipulate you to his own advantage.

This gripping problem is created in *A Comfortable Corner* with the character of Christopher Moore. Chris stumbles from one massive

pher and Terance attend self-help groups composed of those with similar problems. The people in these groups are realistically portrayed and we have the feeling this is how they really function. But Chris continues to roll about in a bath of agony and confusion.

Misery loves its own peculiar kind of company. Christopher's father, Bill, also has his

"Isn't being Gay learning to accept alternate routes? I have a head start."

act of self-destruction to another. Terance, his lover, is caught in a vise-grip between devotion and the natural urge to flee for his life. He is also tempted to abandon ship because he meets Morgan Connally, a healthy man with no visible hangups. But Christo-

problems with the bottle. He teaches at a Catholic school and is Gay. He is attracted to Dominic Perrugio, a macho, working class Italian. Social class breeds conflicts of its own and Dominic attempts to cultivate an interest in the arts. But the alcoholic nightmare is never far behind.

Finally we complete this triangle of human pathos with Judith and Gerald, a straight couple who toil in the vineyards of publishing and advertising. Their marriage is not happy and each is attempting to have an affair in hopes of brightening the future.

Vincent Virga, who lovingly created *Gaywyc*, the Gay gothic tome, has fashioned an arresting picture of six people attempting to beat the odds against self-fulfillment. The pain and ache is familiar to us and the sting is not soon forgotten. We may feel we have met these people somewhere before.

Toward the end of *A Comfortable Corner*, Judith and Gerald are separating. Chris and Terance are nearing a solution to their problems, and Dominic and Bill will soon have their dilemma wrapped up by fate.

No soap opera hysterics or easy solutions are found here. The sheer challenge of getting up on a blue Monday morning is. Virga is a shade too emotional at times, with a few too many tears flowing, but the tone rings true.

As Terance says to himself, "Isn't being Gay learning to accept alternate routes? I have a head start."

But Professor Harry's book is unfocused. We are unable to determine if he is more concerned with Gays as children or adults. The study needs a central unifying theme.

However, his work will help in the continuing battle to destroy stereotypes and misleading views of those whom society regards as being outside the mainstream. There is still a crying need for studies of Gays that cover their entire life span rather than just a certain number of years. Such analysis would yield more significant answers than research that picks away at Gays on a piece-meal basis.

Book Reviews by Frank J. Howell

Don't Bring the Tricks Home

A Study of Gays Who Married

Married & Gay: An Intimate Look at a Different Relationship
By Brenda Maddox
Harcourt-Brace-Jovanovich - \$12.95

"The shock of the wife who discovers that her husband is homosexual has no parallel among the female traumas . . . It usually comes as a bombshell, often as not from a husband who has been steadyng himself for months or years to deliver it . . . When the news comes, she does not tell her best friend, her sister or her mother."

Let's face facts. Some Gay folk want to reproduce and raise children and damn the consequences. Sometimes this arrangement works, but quite frequently disaster results.

Brenda Maddox, Home Affairs Editor of *The Economist* (British), harbors no illusions about the matter. She doesn't print a bright picture. She explores every aspect of such complicated unions and concludes that Gays need

She also discusses Lesbians; how to confront the children (the evidence indicates that the offspring can survive Gay situations) and rehashes the tiresome issues about the cure of same sex love and how Mother Church is still fussing about it.

In some cases compromise is generally called for (don't bring the tricks home). There are women who are unusually understanding. But society bears the final burden. Maddox tackles the issues of Gay marriage and comes down firmly on our side. She provides some challenging instances of holy unions that are practiced by some Unitarian churches. The Gay Christian Movement in England has done the most to refine this process. If sexual faithfulness is desired the priest says the following to the couple:

Priest: Will you swear to remain faithful to each other, never allowing any other relationship to come before the one you are now to affirm?

Couple: We will.

If fidelity is not wished "a simple prayer for a couple, to be said by the minister and the two people concerned, in the privacy of the study, home or chapel, is suggested.

The priest can then say, "Your relationship has not yet been tested by time or trouble. Will you try to make it a strong and permanent one?" The couple can then reply, "We will."

Relationships based on the needs of the individual will continue to expand even though conventional morality will still predominate. Efforts to force people into rigid molds will continue to fail. The results will always be tragic until society learns to modify itself. Maddox has documented this trend well.

Musing Unamusing

After the Orgy a Tiresome Search for More

Dreamlovers
By Pete Fisher
Sea Horse Press
\$8.95 - Paper

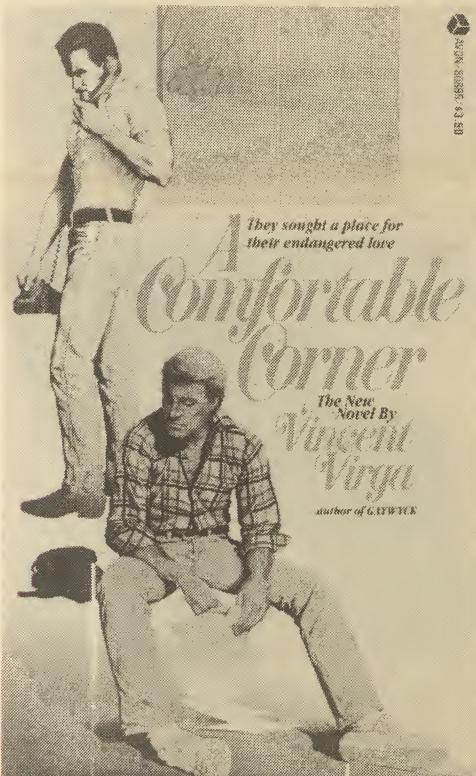
"June 21, 1979

Summer's here. Pete isn't. DREAMLOVERS obviously continues — in red ink at the moment. The 'daemon' was right. This story is not over yet. How can I bring it to an

end? How would I like it to end? Should I spin another fantasy?"

Ever since James Joyce scribbled *Ulysses* writers have been itching to impress others with their spontaneous thoughts about life and their innermost feelings. Pete Fisher, a most talented author in

(Continued on Page 32)



What Makes Them Gay?

Gay Children Grown Up: Gender Culture and Gender Deviance
By Joseph Harry
Praeger Books

Social scientists in recent years are producing more and more evidence that Gays do not differ significantly from non-Gays in many areas of life.

Joseph Harry, associate professor of Sociology at Northern Illinois University, is especially interested in learning about whether Gay male children are more apt to adopt the feminine gender role than straight male children. He seems to feel there are differences between these two groups, but these differ-

ences are a matter of culture rather than psychology.

In *Gay Children Grown Up* Harry has analyzed the lives of over a thousand homosexual males from the Chicago area. His findings regarding older Gay men are especially interesting. He believes there is a mid-life crisis for such men, but that many of them survive it quite well. When physical attractiveness fades some men shift to heterosexual friends; others locate new interests that do not emphasize youth and beauty. Many Gay males find the older years are most relaxing and

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Gay WHO Gay WHAT Gay WHERE Gay WHEN Gay WHY



Palmy Prancers

The Gary Palmer Dance Company performs at Centerspace, 2840 Mariposa, for two weekends, December 3-4 and 10-11. Dancing begins at 8:30, and new photographs by Stephen Savage can be viewed in the lobby before the show. Savage has also contributed the set for a new Palmer work which has music by Bay Area composer Eric Walker. The bill includes another Palmer premiere and a dance for three women. ■

Three Ring Seniors

Sutter's Mill is usually a hotbed of activity but this Saturday, December 4, it will be an absolute circus. For the third year in a row, the bar will host a benefit for Christmas Camp for Seniors. For the second time, that benefit will have a circus theme.

Christmas Camp for Seniors is a one-day annual function sponsored by the Examiner and the YMCA. They provide an elegant holiday dinner for 1000 people who are over 60 years of age and would otherwise be alone for Christmas. Previous dinners have been held in the Carnelian Room and the Grand Ballroom of the Fairmont Hotel. Sutter's Mill is the only Gay organization participating in the affair, although last year the Gay Marching Band performed at the dinner.

Harry Azevedo, - who's been at Sutter's Mill for five years and has helped organ-

ize both circus events, told the B.A.R. about the day's plans.

"Last year we had a benefit for the Christmas Camp in conjunction with our anniversary party — Sutter's Mill will be eighteen years old on December 10!" Azevedo ex-



plained. "This year we decided to do the party just for Senior Citizens."

"The circus will be staged indoors at Sutter's Mill instead of in Crocker Plaza because the weather has been so bad. We've invited outside groups to be involved, and even

some of our customers will set up booths. Mainly, though, the Circus is created and staffed by our employees.

"Among the booths there will be fortune telling, dart throwing, a mustache and beard trim, a kissing booth, book sellers, pie throwing, and many others. A special feature among the entertainment will be a guest appearance by the world's smallest horse.

"The booths all ask donations, and Sutter's Mill donates 50 cents for each drink purchased. We'd like to raise \$5,000 for the Christmas Camp. Foremost McKesson was our first contributor, with a wonderful \$1,000 donation.

"Sutter's Mill doesn't make any money on this event. The waiters even donate their tips. So we'd like the entire Gay community to come down on Saturday and get behind the event. It starts at 11 a.m. and continues 'til 9 p.m. It's a lot of fun." ■

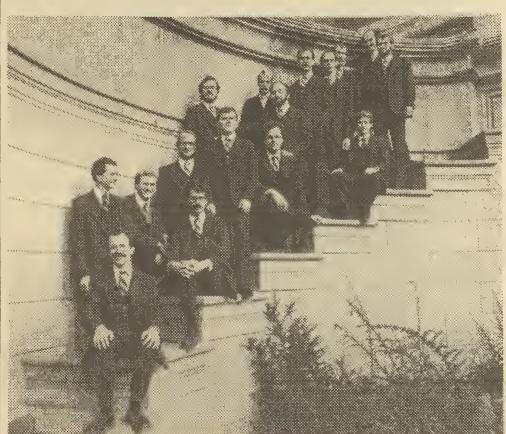
Gay for Thirty Seconds

Bay Area television watchers may be surprised during the holiday season to find a Gay angle in a traditionally family oriented activity — spreading Christmas cheer.

Thanks to an unprecedented invitation from KGO Channel 7, the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus will appear in three different thirty-second musical spots. Viewers will see Chorus Artistic Director Ernie Veniegas, Jr. directing over forty Chorus members in song. As each spot closes, the message "Season's Greetings from KGO and the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus" will be superimposed on the screen. One of the musical spots will appear at least once a day and, in all likelihood, more frequently as Christmas approaches. Probable air times will be announced soon.

An advance in the handling of a Gay group is pointed out by the mainstream nature of the other groups which will alternate with the Chorus. These include the San Jose Children's Musical Theatre, with a group aging 11 to 17, and the Valley Christmas Theatre, which presents a "father figure" and three children.

The Men's Chorus involvement in the spots grew out of a community access workshop the station sponsored earlier this year, which Chorus Manager Johnny Martin and Mixed Chorus Manager Linda Rhode attended. KGO Community Affairs Director Rose Guilbault wanted to avoid using groups which



Die Männerstimmen, A Chamber Chorus of Men's Voices, will present a holiday concert of choral music entitled Hymns to the Virgin. It will be heard at St. Mark's Episcopal Church (2300 Bancroft Way in Berkeley) on Friday, December 3; at San Francisco Theological Seminary (2 Kensington Road in San Anselmo) on Saturday, December 4; and at the Mission Dolores Basilica in San Francisco on Sunday, December 5. The Berkeley concert is at 8:30, the others at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$7 at the door.

This special offering repeats the theme of their popular 1981 concert, Songs to Mary. This year, Die Männerstimmen will present plainsong settings of Marian antiphons and motets by Monteverdi and Brumel. The centerpiece of this remarkable collection of liturgical literature spanning the last 1200 years will be Christolbal de Morales' Missa Ave Maria, based on the plainsong "Ave Maria." Also included are works by Schubert, Paul Chihara, and Peter Maxwell Davies.

dominate media and public attention. The partnership between the Chorus and KGO has mutual rewards. Had GGPA purchased the projected amount of air time, the cost would have exceeded \$30,000. The goodwill generated for the Gay community is priceless.

Channel 7 has produced over a half-dozen positive-imaged, Gay related shows. Golden Gate Performing Arts encourages viewers to write or call KGO expressing their appreciation for this latest effort, at 565-7843 or 277 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, 94102. ■

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CABARET CORNUCOPIA

Singing Satisfaction

JOHN F. KARR

Without a doubt, Stephen Sloane is the most promising new singer on the local scene. That he's so accomplished already is a surprise — to nobody more than Sloane himself, who is either inordinately modest or thoroughly unaware of his inherent talent.



Sloane has one quality that sets him apart from every other male on the cabaret circuit. His appearances don't seem to be performances; he's not out there to become a star. He sings because he's found it's something he can do. It communicates. So he doesn't program evenings of show-stopping finales, or indulgent strings of heavy ballads. He explores the charms of good songs, caressing them inside and out with his soft, consoling touch. He tries drama, he tries jazz, he touches standards, show tunes and pop. But he approaches it all with respect for the material and does his best for it. This self-effacing manner — plus his good taste in tunes — allows the songs to stand on their own, and that's a delicious thing for song fanciers to savor.

Sloane's voice is light as a thistle, with the same burr. Its quick vibrato flutters like a hummingbird. Imagine a male Blossom Dearie, huskier and masculine, but with the same shimmering soap-bubble sound. You can hear pieces of David Allyn croon-

ing, Perry Como smoothing and Johnny Mathis romancing. With his personable approach and emotional believability, he's a natural. It's a smooth and comfortable voice, like your favorite slippers warmed in front of the fireplace.

He's skittish as a water skeeter on Brubeck's "A Raggy Waltz," direct on Anne Murray's "Broken Hearted Me," introspective with Raisin's "Sweet Time," and unusually mature on "All the Sad Young Men."

He shares the stage with singer/comedienne Shannon Orock, and together they toss off some sassy duets, with updated, topical words a hilarious specialty. While her voice is sometimes erratic, his is sure. His musical mannerisms belie his brief experience — he'll bend tones, or blur a note into the opening of a new phrase or dangle time values. He's a natural, and his singing gives me pleasure. Those who want to hear a talent at the beginning, before it's even quite sure exactly what it can do, should catch Mr. Sloane now. But don't worry. He'll be around awhile. His warm voice and presence are just beginning to charm others the way they've charmed me.

Stephen Sloane appears at the Plush Room on Saturday, December 4, at 8:30 p.m. and at the Roxy Roadhouse (Eddy at Larkin) on December 9.

* * *

I saw Ruth Hastings and Company in their *Brel/Piaf* revue for the third time last weekend. They only get better. Ruth explodes with the musical manifestation of each emotion she sings about; I was impressed anew at the talent, intensity, and communication. The show closes December 12, and I recommend the show as the best cabaret revue the town has to offer. It's at the Plush Room.

Michael Wolford, Beach Blanket Babylon's singing, dancing, and tapping cutie appears in solo at the Plush Room on Monday, December 6, at 8 p.m.

STAGE

Win, Place and No Show

Curzon Goes Straight, Larner Bombs, 'Hunger' Fills

by Steve Warren

Gay playwright Daniel Curzon has written a play about non-Gays! Screenwriter Jeremy Larner has written a play! Despite the advance excitement generated by these two, the hit of One Act Theatre Company's Series #2 is neither of the above.

It's *Hunger*, the only real comedy of the evening, by relatively unknown Ronald Peet. On a mountain ledge a sheep (Steve Cotten) outfoxes a hungry wolf (John Paul) by offering him love and companionship: "Eat me and tomorrow you're hungry with no one to talk to. Keep me alive and want me forever." That's a strong case against instant gratification on one allegorical level. On another it

speaks to Gays and other minorities, saying that we, like sheep, were liberated when we stopped running.

Aside from food for thought, laughs and good acting, the play offers a real turn-on in John Paul's lupine movements. There are a few too many cheap shot jokes ("embraceable ewe"), but if the ending could be strength-

(Continued on Page 27)

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BAY AREA REPORTER DEC. 2, 1982 PAGE 23

STAGE

Maids Without Masks

by John F. Karr

Jean Genet — bastard, outcast, criminal, prisoner, pervert, homosexual, philosopher — was condemned to life imprisonment in 1948 but was later pardoned by the President of the Republic at the behest of France's most eminent writers. He has joined their ranks with a succession of plays and novels, the texture and meaning of which have been unmatched by any other. Yet his experiences went so far beyond the forbidden that after a few years of celebrity among the intelligentsia of this country his works have drifted into near obscurity to become footnotes to the avant garde movement. Perhaps now that Gay liberation is expanding our legal horizons our minds will follow suit. I doubt Genet intended his work for a straight audience and it's time the Gay audience claimed his genius as their own. The stunning production of *The Maids* at 544 Natoma Performance Gallery is a startling, erotic evening of Gay theatre, and made me feel a Genet revival was due.

The conceit of playing *The Maids* with an all male cast is hardly the vandalism the idea might suggest. It's directly in accord with Genet's intentions. In *Our Lady of the Flowers* Genet wrote, "If I were to have a play put on in which women had roles, I would demand that these roles be performed by adolescent boys, and I would bring this to the attention of the spectators by means of a placard which would (remain) during the entire performance."

That the original production of *The Maids* was, in fact, played by women was a concession of Genet to the producer, Louis Jouvet, whose commercial sagacity has masked the essential truth of the play for over thirty years.

In his introduction to the English translation of the play, Jean-Paul Sartre writes that Genet's demands for an adolescent cast might be humorously explained by his

taste for young boys. "The truth of the matter is that Genet wishes to strike at the root of the apparent," concludes Sartre. We must experience "de-realizing" to see through the appearances of an actress playing a maid. In a passage of unabashed homoeroticism, Sartre explains that this state of artifice can best be destroyed when nature, reality, is banished: "The roughness of a breaking voice, the dry hardness of male muscles and the bluish luster of a budding beard" should be employed when portraying women to best expose the sham of theatrical illusion.

Director Ken Wilkinson has taken Genet's intentions one step further in a brilliantly realized adaptation of the play. The cast is all male, but hardly adolescent. He's included the rough, broken voices, the luster of beard and the hardness of muscle, and in the process has resurrected Genet and made his dreams live on stage in a way no fe-

male cast ever could. Wilkinson has personified Genet's masturbatory daydreams while still exposing the layers of reality and illusion that are the core of the play.

For this is not a play about women. Sartre wrote that neither women nor the psychology of women interested Genet, and he was right. *The Maids* is about us, about Gay men. The stripping away of



Jean Genet — bastard, outcast, criminal, pervert, homosexual, philosopher.

the mask with which polite society hid that fact to make Genet's work palatable sweeps over the audience on Natoma Street with the force of revelation. This is not an adaptation at all, I felt, but an exhumation of the author's true intent. In changing the setting from a lady's chambers with its mincing maids to a Master's loft with its abject slaves, Wilkinson has built a homosexual, S&M milieu in which Genet's creation appears more indisputably true

than ever before.

The evening may offer the most consistently overacted production I've ever seen. Yet I'm unsure if that is a fault. "Appearance, which is constantly on the point of passing itself off as reality, must constantly reveal its profound unreality," wrote Sartre. "Everything must be so false that it sets our teeth on edge." The actors bear out this idea, which acts as a Brechtian alienation device. Cozy identification is too simple. We must be distanced to observe, react. The overacting, however, obscured demarcations between roles and role playing, and produced unwanted laughs.

Many other laughs are warranted, though, and the more I recognized Gay role playing, the more I howled — howls which turned to shrieks as Genet moves on relentlessly. For *The Maids* is an S&M ceremony of degradation and death, and the laughs only heighten the horror.

Wilkinson appears as the object of the slaves' fears and longing, Madame. Careening about the stage, he's a walrus on Demerol. Lorenzo Glover plays Claire. Although his raspy breathing through clenched teeth is irritating, he's an animal of incredible visual satisfaction. His transitions aren't as clearly marked as David Baker's, but that only involved me more actively as I jumped to keep up with the convolutions of the couple's sexual role playing.

Baker's overacting has been a consistent pleasure of mine for a decade, and no-

body portrays sexual frenzy better than he.

Strange that at only one moment did this long, adventurous play falter, and that was when Baker entered in French maid drag, complete with wig. Before this we had gratefully accepted multiple varieties of male drag — police drag, leather drag. But I felt the audience turn away from female drag. Is this because it has nothing to do with Gay men, or is it simply passe? Whatever, Baker had to win the audience back, which he did superbly with a sex solo as only he can play.

The evening begins with three of Skrumbly Koldewyn's provocative songs, strongly sung but insufficiently internalized by Paul King. The songs question Gay identity and are the perfect accompaniment to which the two maids begin the sex ceremony.

Finally, the entire ritual is over, with Claire (most likely) dead. Solange whispers that they did it all — including dying — to be free. Is this the gift the S&M ritual brings? Does being homosexual, an outsider, bring freedom?

Genet asks, answers, and obfuscates on so many issues; *The Maids* is overwhelming. Despite the basic overstatement of the direction, I know I'll never see a production of *The Maids* more deeply resonant, more relevant to me as a Gay man. Or quite as sexy. ■

The Maids
544 Natoma
Thru Dec. 5: 621-2683

The City 1977-78 A.D.

Torch Song for The City

by Mark Topkin

My first reaction was to resist *The City 1977-78 A.D.*, not because of its potential pretense, but because of its subject matter. I'm glad I didn't. In years to come this musical chronicle of the uncloseting of the American Gay rights movement may carry the emotional impact of the events of 1977-78 to more people than any printed word or filmed documentary.

Composer Ron Romanovsky and lyricist Gene Porter have taken the events of June 1977 (the Dade County Gay Rights Ordinance defeat) through November 27, 1978 (the assassinations of Harvey Milk and George Moscone) and have fashioned them into a rock opera of two acts and eleven scenes in the Rice-Weber (J.C. Superstar) style. This is no ripoff, however. Porter and Romanovsky have created a work of substance in both the libretto and music, and Porter, along with Paul Phillips, has directed a strong, talented and obviously committed cast in the opera's presentation.

At the center of the story is Steven, an ambitious, young San Francisco TV reporter. Following his coverage of the Dade County vote, he finds himself more and more intrigued by the Gay Rights issue. His coverage of the Robert Hillsborough murder, the Gay Freedom Day Parade, Harvey Milk's election to the Board of Supervisors and Milk's subsequent assassination sensitizes Steven to his own sexual feelings.

The major story, however, is not so much Steven's as it is the emerging Gay rights movement which surrounds him, and Porter tells this story

through the street people, the bar people, and the people fighting the battle.

Romanovsky's score is listenable at its least and rousing at its best. "Full Moon in the City" is top 40s pop material; "Big G., J.C. and Sister B." is a superb 50s rock parody of the Moral Majority; "Light of Freedom" could easily stand as the torch song for the Gay rights movement.

A cast of nineteen in assorted roles and a band of six performed *The City* with a professional polish that added stature to the work. Strong voices, solid musicianship and confident stage presences never faltered. The final note brought the audience at the Randall Junior Museum theater to its feet, and few eyes were dry, a testimony to the opera's impact.

The City 1977-78 A.D. needs some changes and tightening here and there, especially in some Act II transitions. There is no question in my mind, however, that a full-scale production of *The City* should be the highlight of next year's fifth commemoration of the deaths of Harvey Milk and George Moscone. In its remembrance of our grief it is a celebration of our strength. ■

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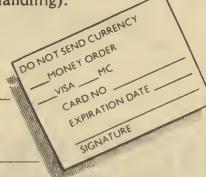
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TALES OF TESSI TURA

Pulp, Porn & Puccini

GEORGE HEYMONT

On a recent trip to New York I came across a delightfully droll essay entitled *Phallus in Wonderland*. The protagonist was a hot dude who had suffered the burden of dragging around a 14-foot long cock since puberty. Desperate to reduce his genitalia to more reasonable dimensions he prayed and prayed for relief. Then, one magic day a size queen grabbed his mammoth member screaming "Tosca, finalmente mia!" Miracle of miracles, the ace that had launched a thousand hips shrank to human proportions and he lived happily ever after.

If that tale requires suspension of belief, you should imagine what it's like to sit through the umpteenth performance of some Puccini potboiler waiting to see what will unfold before one's beady little eyes. It's no wonder so many cynical music critics approach these meat and potato works of the operatic repertoire with a mixture of eager anticipation and morbid dread. That's exactly what happened to me on opening night of San Francisco Opera's revival of *Tosca*.

JUMP, BITCH! JUMP!

Braced for the worst, I must admit to being pleasantly surprised by Gwyneth Jones' feminine, kittenish diva. Enunciating with great care and navigating a cautious path through the score, Ms. Jones was a serviceable (though hardly electrifying) heroine. "A great suburban lady," snickered one opera queen. "Considering all the screaming we tolerated during Maria's years it was rather passable," sneered another. Truly a night for evil contempt as the cognoscenti plucked poor Gwyneth's performance to pieces in their attempts to generate some excitement.

A catalyst was sorely needed and it wasn't the soprano's fault, either. Jones toned down her portrayal of the fiery Tosca, perhaps to compensate for a lame and panicky tenor. Giacomo Aragall's Cavaradossi was noticeably under par. Justino Diaz was slick enough, but hardly a malevolent Scarpia. Veteran Italo Tajo's Sacristan was a minor blessing by comparison. The production was staged efficiently by Matthew Farrugio with the familiar Ponelle sets and conducted with reasonable gusto by Garcia Navarro. Alas, the ingredients were all too safe, resulting in a bland perform-



"Hunkie sailor, my ass! That honky bastard wants to take away my kid!"
Cio-Cio-San (Martina Arroyo) faces reality in Puccini's MADAMA BUTTERFLY.

Latino Fiesta

Esta Noche and Yerba Buena Productions present Reventon Navideno, an evening of comedy, song and dance with Monica Palacios, recording artist Fidel Ronquillo, Teresita La Campesina and others Sunday, December 5, 1982, 11 PM at Esta Noche, 3079 16th Street, San Francisco. Admission is \$4.

Reventon Navideno is a

presentation of Yerba Buena Productions, a promotion group that showcases Latino Lesbian and Gay performing artists. Their previous productions include *Reunion*, a play about a Gay Latino coming out to his family and *Latin Red, White and Blue*, a star-spangled variety show.

Info: Rodrigo Reyes at 641-7189 or Esta Noche at 863-7566. ■

ance which was functional if sorrowfully mediocre.

HARLEM ON MY MIND

Further south, the San Diego Opera mounted a revival of *Madama Butterfly* which (considering the perverse odds at stake) was infinitely more successful. Ever since the day when Martina Arroyo told radio audiences that "Madame Butterball" was one of her favorite roles I had longed to see the soprano cajoling around Nagasaki in geisha drag. Short, firm and fully packed, Arroyo is still singing with exceptional vocal beauty, though rarely in America.

As I passed through the lobby of the Civic Theatre one of the tackier wits took me by the arm and hissed, "All things considered, shouldn't we be calling this production *Mothra?*" Not at all. By some miraculous power of concentration and goodwill the cast and production team turned Puccini's little tearjerker into a stunning operatic experience.

The credit goes primarily to director Rhoda Levine and conductor Bruno Rigacci. Together they worked on tiny, human details which enabled the singers to react to the music in ways which are often neglected. Using clean, precise strokes to make sure the audience understood what the composer was attempting to say, Levine not only aided Arroyo in etching a creditable Cio-Cio-San but turned the soprano's body language to her advantage — ultimately benefiting all. Exquisite insights into the humanity of the music and libretto shone through with crystal clarity in one deft stroke after another: an achievement in stagecraft which was both knowing and elegant.

The supporting cast was quite strong, especially Mimi Lerner's genuinely grief-stricken Suzuki and Frederick Burchinal's stalwart Sharpless. The most important contribution, however, was Joseph Evans' Pinkerton. Tall, blonde and boyish (the epitome of a Midwestern WASP punk) Evans may be the finest Pinkerton around today, though often overlooked by many operatic impresarios. His voice has grown sizably as has his stage appeal. He turned Pinkerton into the kind of socially inept heel which an audience can't help but detest and pity simultaneously. Evans' final dramatic moment as he discovered Cio-Cio-San's body and tried to shield his child's eyes from the sight drew the appropriate knee-jerk response from the audience.

In short, a job well done: thoroughly rehearsed and carefully thought out. What a contrast to San Francisco's *Tosca* which was a tidy, dull lesson in conformity and the use of a prompt book. There are intelligent risks which can be taken with even the most familiar operas. After all, melodrama need not be mediocre to be successful. ■

Gambling and History on 'Gay Life'

A Gay member of Gamblers Anonymous, Jim S. as well as creators of *Before Stonewall*, a film being made about the early years of Gay liberation, will be Randy Alred's guests on *The Gay Life*, Sunday, December 5 at 6 AM on KSAN, 95 FM. ■

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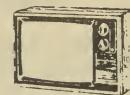
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Beatitude and Bondage: Photos by Jorasch



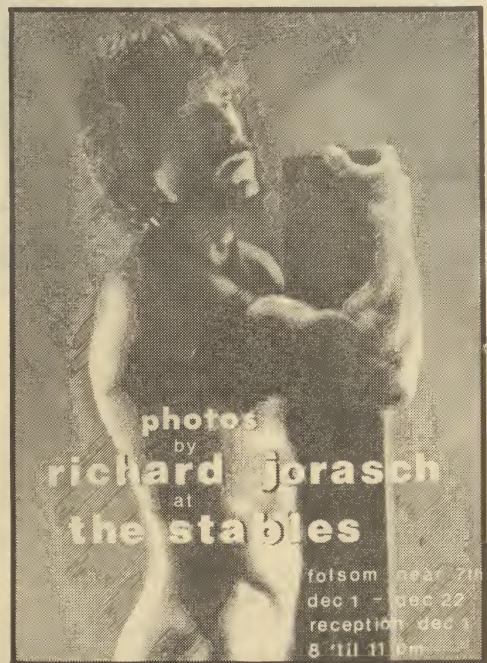
When they see his photographs at The Stables, bar-goers, photo fanciers, lovers of goodlooking men, and bondage disciples are likely to be glad that Richard Jorasch became disillusioned enough with his first career to quit it altogether.

"I was trained as an architect," Jorasch explained. "I designed the University Art Museum in Berkeley and the Newman Center. But architecture took a turn I was not interested in and bureaucracy intervened with design to too high a degree. So I gave that up and devoted myself to philosophy, almost exclusively Sophocles and Schopenhauer. It was at this time that my interest in the male body began. First I took up drawing. That gradually evolved into photography. I've been at it for over a year now, and this is my first exhibit."

"I wanted my first show to be a Gay one, so I'm glad to have been welcomed at The Stables. The show will look good there; the space and lighting are excellent."

"I'm displaying fifteen prints, most of them giant 30" x 40" blowups. They tend to be more contrasty, black and white, than mid-tone in that size. There is some color work also."

Jorasch hesitated before replying, "Yes, bondage is a particular subject of interest to me, because so many of my clients respond to the photos. It's a popular fantasy. But I don't usually photograph it on the first session. Bondage



goes deeper into the psyche than regular posing, and I find it better to wait until the second or third session."

"When it's working right, photography is a two-way street, an artist-model relationship. With the models in these pictures I developed a close rapport so it's hard to say where my ideas leave off and theirs came in. I might adjust a pose they had naturally found."

"The photos in this show include two polarities, from bondage to the opposite, a poetic attitude in which some find religious overtones. The influence of artists I've admired can be seen, although I didn't set out to copy these influences. In the photo of the pensive boy the lighting is Caravaggio and the model's attitude is Botticelli. I find it to be a young St. John image."

"My architecture and photography are very similar, concerned with light. There's a certain starkness, simplicity to my work. But I don't like to compare the fields or intellectualize. Art has to do with intuition; you can't rationalize that."

Jorasch concluded his musing with a dream. "One of my goals is to have a showing of my photography in my museum."

From The Stables to the art museum may not be so long a trip when the art is the photographs of Richard Jorasch. ■

Photos by Richard Jorasch at The Stables, 1123 Folsom near 7th, through December 22.

FILM CLIPS

The Video Explosion

Large Screen to Small

by Michael Lasky

So far movie theaters have not felt the effects of the video explosion. If box office receipts are down, it is more likely the fault of the economy or the quality of the films playing.

I have a feeling, though, that the inferior way movie theaters are being managed these days and the increasing appeal of in-your-own-home video cassettes will contribute to the eventual downfall of large screen theaters.

The other night I sat down with friends in my own living room and watched *Young Frankenstein* and the Broadway musical *Pippin* as well as an hour's worth of pre-dinner porno aperitifs.

As rented from the mind-boggling oversized collection of The Video Mart (279 9th Street, 621-7222), the whole evening cost \$10; split among four of us that's a net of \$2.50. We saw exactly what we wanted to see, when we wanted to see it, with a complete dinner before us. No theater can compete with that. Besides, the rental was good for the *entire* weekend.

Oh, sure, there is your 70mm wide screen and your Dolby stereo but even the new video players have stereo capabilities now.

My friend Dennis was particularly enchanted with the remote control freeze-frame ability my machine has. At the flip of a switch, he had two charming gentlemen standing at attention.

In addition to the thousands of titles of movies now

available on videotape, there are hundreds more tapes of original direct for video productions — like Broadway shows, classic TV shows, instructional tapes, concerts, and even rock video albums.

Movie studios, eager for the big bucks, are offering new films practically simultaneous to their theater release. *Annie, The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas, Reds, Poltergeist*, and *Iron Man* are just some of the titles released this week for rental (at \$4 for two nights) or purchase (from \$60 to \$80).

Just how a film made for wide screen holds up on the old boob tube is another matter altogether. Big sales are reported (naturally) for *Star Wars*, recently released on cassette and videodisc. But reducing it down to a 19" screen from one that extends wall to wall in a theater means something's gotta go. What?

The answer to that will be periodic reports/reviews of new and classic videotapes which will appear in this column when there is a slack period in theatrical film releases. If the video boom continues as it is, there just might be more slack periods than studios would prefer.

Meanwhile, my RCA Selectavision 650 is going to be busy catching up with some rentals of old favorites — *All About Eve, Beyond the Valley of the Dolls, New Faces of 1952, The Producers, Some Like It Hot, A Star is Born, Auntie Mame, The Killing of Sister George*, and that occasional porno flick for those nights when two at home is better than four in the bush.

Pippin

Family Home Entertainment Cassette. \$59.95 or by rental. Also available on video disc format.

\$29.95-34.95.

What goes on here? A flashy, magical Broadway musical about the Holy Roman Empire in 783 A.D. France? Although the subject matter of the five Tony Award winning, 2000 performances show doesn't sound like musical material, leave it to wizard Bob Fosse to transform it into a festive entertainment.

What you can get away with on stage is not always transportable to the TV screen. But ten years later, director David Sheehan has assembled some laudable performers including original Master of Ceremonies Ben Vereen (this show made his career), Chita Rivera, Martha Raye, and in the title role, William Katt.

The soundtrack is in mono and the one time I would have liked the usually detested stage miking, there is a paucity of it. Consequently in some sections the dialogue sounds tinny and distant. The hummable Steven Schwartz songs, though, come in loud and clear. The imagery on the tape is sharp and the original sets are all here.

The advantage of TV is that it can bring us closer to the actors. For the most part the camera work here is unobtrusive yet I feel as if some of the stage magic that is so evident in the tenth row center of an auditorium has been lost with the introduction of closeups.

The performances by Rivera (four stars), Raye (three stars) and Vereen (four stars) seem fresh as yesterday — if a bit rushed. Katt can handle his dialogue well but his singing voice is, to be diplomatic, rather scratchy. But who can complain. We've got another classic Broadway show taped for posterity with most of the original staging intact.

Dark Circle

Illuminating

by Steve Warren

If you were among the voters for a nuclear freeze you have the least need to see *Dark Circle*, but you're the

Although major segments deal with Hiroshima/Nagasaki and Diablo Canyon (including a rare inside look at the facility), the bulk of the film was shot around Rocky Flats, 16 miles from Denver, where 720 nuclear "devices" are produced each year. While officials deny that plu-

corporations that make the components (and the profits) of nuclear weaponry; but mostly it shows individuals whose lives have been affected by nuclear power, and some who are devoting their lives to having an effect of their own.

When *Dark Circle* showed at last month's Bay Area Filmmakers' Showcase, an accompanying short subject made the point, "It's no longer a question of violence or nonviolence. The choice now is between nonviolence and nonexistence." *Dark Circle* brings that point home in a way people can relate to directly.

(Surf)

most likely to want to. This highly partisan documentary on the side effects of nuclear power takes a people-to-people approach with equal appeal to the intellect and the emotions.

tonium is leaking into the local water supply, residents of a local subdivision have a much higher cancer rate (not including KS) than the general population.

Dark Circle names the

not make me want to care about them. Scenes zip by, rarely lasting more than two minutes, so any impact is cumulative rather than a direct result of any single scene. The device of speaking directly to the audience is annoyingly overused.

Jeanne Lewis keeps up with the multiple moods the script demands — on the surface level it calls for, as she proves by breaking character instantly for the curtain call — as Jill, the drug addict everyone else in the play relates to. Her mother (Marion Eaton) holds up the shell of a 30-year loveless marriage to her daughter as a model of middle class respectability. Never having learned to deal with her husband's drinking, she's

helpless in the face of their daughter's addiction. Aware that he's becoming a co-addict, Richard (Larry Rose) marries Jill after living with her for some time.

At one point Jill asks us, "Why do we have to like 'em just because they're our relatives?" but Curzon never answers that question in *The Birthday Girl*.

The final score for One Act II's three world premieres is: one hit, one miss, and one in-between that could easily be moved into the win column.

Steve Warren

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FROM FIFTH POSITION

Lyricism Among Men

KEITH WHITE

England's Ballet Rambert is just completing the first North American tour of its fifty-odd year history, over the decades having fostered some of the most renowned dancers and choreographers of the twentieth century. The company's arrival in New York prompted the abundant press coverage that typically greets a major foreign company's American debut, though the notices following the performances were somewhat vague and reserved. Part of our appreciation for Ballet Rambert was predestined, since the company's three in-house choreographers are heavily influenced by American modern dance.

(Continued on Page 32)



The "peacock pose" from Richard Alston's APOLLO DISTRAUGHT. "What a pleasure . . . to see men this way, lifting and supporting each other . . ."

MUSIC

Chorus Kay-Oh's Crowd

JON RANDALL

ED. NOTE: Music Reviewer Philip Campbell lost his tablets when fire destroyed his home the day of the Lesbian/Gay Chorus concert. Guest writer Jon Randall has covered classical and pop music for several S.F. publications.

A wildly sexist thought crossed my mind more than once during this year's Fall/Winter gala by the S.F. Lesbian/Gay Chorus. It was prompted by the determined effort of so many individual women in the group to telegraph the music through facial expression and gesture. Are women naturally better emotors than men? The male choristers looked much more uncomfortable attempting to do the same thing.

Whatever the profound genetic and cultural reasons for this phenomenon, the overall impression given by the chorus was of a warm and spirited ensemble, thoroughly enjoying what they do, and doing it very well indeed.

Work forced me to miss the opening selections, which was a shame as I would have been very interested in comparing the L.G.'s version of the famous "Va Pensiero" from Verdi's *Nabucco* with the Opera Chorus's of last summer. If there's one indisputable strength this group has it's sincerity and commitment, qualities sometimes lacking in the performances of their colleagues at the Opera House.

(Continued on Page 32)

As it was, I arrived just in time to catch the end of "Salut Printemps," an early work by Debussy. Pristine and somewhat academic, it's fascinating in revealing Debussy's stylistic origins. The somewhat "white" sound of the solo women's section suited the innocent pastoral nature of the music very well.

A feast of Brahms followed; the obscure "Nanie" for mixed choir to begin with. The typically late Brahmsian swell of music and somber coloration of the voicing were securely captured by conductor Robin Kay, though the softer portions of the score were a tad too trepidatious for my taste. The chorus's German diction was the weakest part of the performance — sometimes it seemed as if they were singing in English. As programming, it was an uncompromising and adventurous choice. (Perry George, I have learned, deserves credit for uncovering several of the more unusual pieces in the choir's repertoire.)

The Chamber Chorus, abetted by four enthusiastic soloists, gave a highly charged reading of Brahms' "Neue Liebeslieder Waltzer," which, though not as immediately attractive as his famous piano waltz set, is full of mature lyricism and humor. The texts, which are of high literary quality (and not a little gay relevance), waxing so

SPORTS NEWS

CORNER POCKET

The Trophy Hunt

GENE MILLER

In quest of the San Francisco Pool Association's Fall '82 City championship, eight teams remain — by the time you read this, the field will have been reduced to four. The first round resulted in three runaway victories (DeLuxe Powergliders 9-2 over the Arena Centurions, Peg's Pitbulls 9-3 over the Arena Gladiators, Arena Lions 9-4 over the Ambush Outlaws) and a down-to-the-wire thriller that saw Kim's Orphans come out on top 9-7 over Rainbow "Z".

For the first time, four teams from one bar made the playoffs, as all Arena teams finished at least third in their division — the Arena Christians were the only first place team, top seeded in Division IV. Another first: Every player on the roster of Febe's Gypsies is in the top 16, qualified for the All-Star tournament. They are also the only team to qualify every member for the 9 Ball tournament.

Expectations, statistically, are that Febe's (Division I winner, 139-37) will see the Stallion Stampede (Division II winner, 128-48) when the championship begins Dec. 28, but there are surprises every season, and there are still six teams quite capable of producing those surprises. For the latest details, call J-O-E P-O-O-L (563-7665).

BIG BUCKS FROM BUD

It's official, the SFPA has received a donation of \$1,730 from Bracco Distributing Co., local handlers of Budweiser and several other beers, bringing an expansive grin to the face of league Treasurer Ray Peterson. According to league President Bill West, "We were approached by Coors, but the Board agreed to try for a donor more highly regarded among Gay people, so I put in a call to Bracco." West spoke with Frank Cardelli, who was immediately enthused.

siastic and almost guaranteed a contribution on the spot. After only minimal negotiation, the figure of \$1,730 was reached. Much of the cash will cover the Annual 9 Ball tournament; another chunk will be used for the Awards Party, slated for Trodadero Transfer January 11.

CONGRATS, CONGRATS

Congratulations are in order for Tom Sipple (Stables Sundance Kids), whose 17 consecutive victories represent the longest streak of the season; and also for Carl Arguello, who won five consecutive tournaments (three at the Rainbow, one each at the Arena and Endup) breaking the old record of four straight, jointly held by Lauren Ward and I.

COMING UP:

December 4, Annual 9-Ball Championship, Park Bowl, 1:00 PM; Dec. 7, 14, 21, Team Playoffs, 3rd round; Dec. 18, All-Star Tournament (Top 16), Park Bowl, 1:00 PM; Dec. 19, Class "A" Tournament, Park Bowl, 1:00 PM; Dec. 28, Jan. 4, 5, City Championship, Team.

TG WEDNESDAY NBL

Blazing Balls

JERRY R. DE YOUNG

On the night of 11/17, the lanes at Park Bowl were filled with the screams of inflamed competitors as they nervously cupped their searing balls in their left hands and fired them down the alley, ablaze with accuracy.

It was sometimes painful, though, to watch as a few participants' balls abruptly went cold, leaving them staggering in surprise as they suddenly realized they had lost that fiery impetus which is so frequently the result of heated competition.

One team whose balls were red-hot on the evening of 11/17 was the Ambush. A record-setting four members of their group bowled their first 200+ games that night and, in so doing, improved their team average an incredible 18 pins (685 to 703). Shooting for the stars, huh? Well, they just might make it.

Another team afire is the Play With It, Ltd. crew. In the 2nd game on 11/17, they set a new season high team-total for one game. Would you believe a magnificent 1012?

If the preceding perspira-

D. O'Neill (P-I)	236
T. Hagerman (D-St's)	235
A. Colon (P.B.)	225
J. Forrest (Ambush)	225
A. Stenson (P.W.I.L.)	222
R. Wotring (P-II)	223
B. Rolison (P.W.I.L.)	222
R. Harpy (Ambush)	217
W. Ward (W.H.)	214
J. Diaz (Ambush)	211
L. Gundel (W.H.)	208
K. Ray (Badlands)	206
D. Bieda (Ambush)	205
B. Schneider (P-II)	205
C. Jarrett (Stagecoach)	203

If the above inferno of competition did not raise your temperature a degree or two, you had best pinch yourself to check your sensitivity. It may not be too late.

Softball Plea

The Phone Booth Operators softball team is now organizing for the fifth season with the Gay Softball League. An organizational meeting will be held Saturday, December 11, at 1 p.m. to begin forming a team, as well as to familiarize potential players with the team management and their plans for the season. Any Gay man or woman interested in playing softball may attend, since all 18 slots on the team are open and will not be filled until after several practices and team meetings have occurred. For location information, or any other questions, please call Chuck Smith at 621-3788 by Thursday, December 9.

Frontrunners

The Frontrunners Sunday Fun Run for December 5 covers either 1.7 or 5 level miles around Lake Merced. Runners should meet at the boat house on Harding Road, off Skyline Blvd. at 10 AM.

Sunday Cycle

The Different Spokes bicycle club has a ride of moderate difficulty across the Dumbarton Bridge, from the Fremont BART station with a return via the Peninsula scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 5. Info: Bob, 863-2889.

An alternative "Decide and Ride" will meet at 11 AM at McLaren Lodge in GG Park.



Carol's Team, part of the Wednesday Night Bowling League. (Photo: Rink)

BAY AREA REPORTER BOB'S BAZAAR

BAY AREA REPORTER SUPPLEMENT X-RATED BAY AREA REPORTER SUPPLEMENT X-RATED BAY AREA REPORTER SUPPLEMENT X-RATED BAY AREA REPORTER

**MY KNIGHTS
IN LEATHER**

**Boys and Birds:
Stuffed and
Self-Basting**

TURKEY HUNT

Opening the Holiday season this year, the Arena held their Annual Turkey Shoot the Monday before Turkey Day. Randy, Ron and Steve and the gang entertained potential Turkey stuffers, as Terry hosted the raffle, while hot little George Davis hunted for other, bigger game. One of the winners was Bob... here from Detroit to sleaze out before a relaxing family visit in San Diego. Said Bob as he hauled off the enormous bird, "The only question is what do you do with a turkey at the YMCA?" Jack of the Ambush gunned one of the feathered delicacies down to contribute to the Annual Thanksgiving Supper at the Bush. B'tender Ron wanted to sponsor a turkey stuffing contest. I know several turkeys in the crowd who would have gladly volunteered to be stuffed by hunky Ron. DJ David Keely has taken his place here for the winter. Down from the river at Drums, he spins in the beginning of Arena's week. As Swarthy Randy Ellis took hold of another one of the spoils, he reminded us that they were not self-basting as many of the crowd in the Arena were than night. Some of the birds came with a handy supply of Elbow Grease though.

MAGUM EATEM

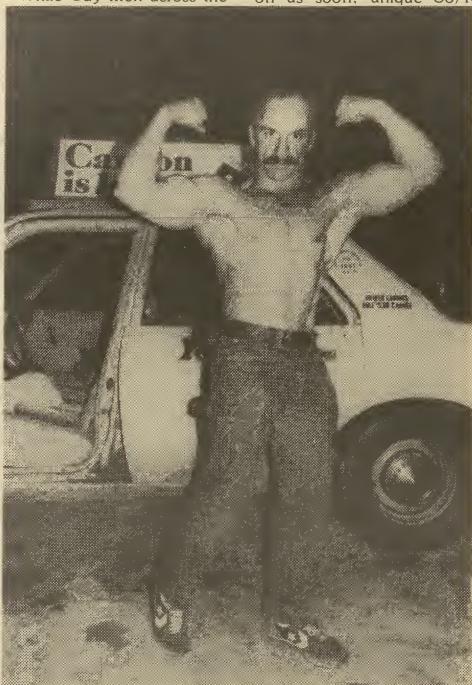
While Gay men across the

city celebrated Thanksgiving in the warm glow of friends, lovers, and family, the extended So/M family supped royally at feasts in the hollow. The SF Eagle closed and the staff and their lovers and friends feasted on an enormous spread of 6 turkeys and 3 hams with all the trimmings; from cocktails and pate and salmon to pumpkin pie. JC lead the rowdy bank on a trek of all the So/M bars... at the Arena they met up with the staff and friends of the Ambush, just finished with their big feed. Kerry said it was a straight forward Thanksgiving dinner, topped off with their superb cheese cake. Jack reminded us, however, that there was nothing "straight" about it. As the dazed knights with full bellies dozed at the Arena, we took off for the Stables where all was warm and calm. Next stop was Febe's, where the MC's dropped in after family dinners about town.

Oh God! Now that Febe's has installed a great new video system, SFGDI's Jim Leuer has taken to carrying about old Minsky's tapes with him! We viewed the '81 edition that night. The knights seemed thankful when it was over and thankful too, for good friends and warm company this season.

SHORT KNIGHTS

With Christmas coming upon us soon, unique So/M



Add this to your Only In San Francisco File. Even the cabbies are ready to shed their shells and flaunt some skin. Tony Simonetta took a moment from delivering glamor gals to the MARILYN party to steal some of their klieg light. He'll be a contestant in the Marin Open Bodybuilding Contest next month. Hope he doesn't leave the meter running while he flexes! (Photo: R. Pruzan)

gifties are on our minds. Jim Clark has painted some unique pornographic eggs for the season. These were featured at Joe Taylor's Show at the Ramrod. Jim will portray your favorite fantasy, or his. Ask Taylor about it. An equally provocative idea is Jeff Butler's Bejeweled Tit Rings. He will embed the stone of your choice in 14K or 18 K gold. Write: 2829 Clay, 94115 or call 563-1559.

For custom leathers, for his fancy on Christmas day, Image Leathers on Market has a strong team at your service. And speaking of which, guess who has pulled his submarine up to the corner of Sanchez and Market: TJ Cox (as in TJ Leather). He's joined Kerry and the gang this season at Image.

For those in our community who may not otherwise have much Christmas, Paul Estes (latest addition to Alfie's ownership team) and bearded stud Steve Grosvenor are throwing a Holiday Benefit for Sr. Citizens at Alfie's on the 19th. The boys are collecting non-perishable food items or \$3 at the door. Call Steve, 864-3889, or Paul, 864-1639 for more info.

In my Knights About Town file: I met up with the big black stallion CT Thompson, owner of the Spike in NYC, at the Eagle the other night. It was the first time in Mecca for the biker knight. "But definitely not the last." Says he. "SF's a groove. It's a concentrated leather scene." He went on to explain, "Unlike other cities, So/M works because of the support of the bar owners here. The guys out here have extended their hearts and their homes and I thank 'em."

When Mothers Meet... that distinguished Anglican, Peter B. who is affectionately known as Queen Mother of the LA leather scene, was up for some turkey and revelry too: He met up with his old buddy Mike Gill of GDI's who holds Febe's Queen Mother crown. They babbled away in British... nobody could understand 'em!

Messages from beyond: OTT Phone Home!

Ken at KC Engineering out at 12th and Geary is doing some fine work on exotic foreign bikes these days. Some tell me it's hard to find a good man. (I think it's good to find a Hard man, but that's

(Continued on next page)

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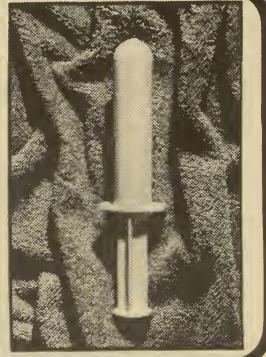
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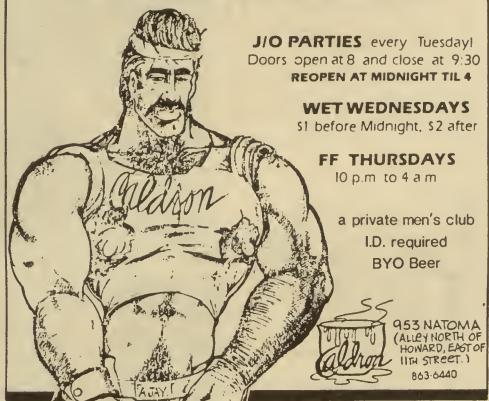
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Contestant #32, "Monstra Tampona," never appeared on stage with the 66 contestants in the Eagle's Leather and Feather spectacle. Her friends held her back as she hissed and flicked her tongue. "She may attack the other contestants," they claimed. (Photo: Rink)

KNIGHTS

(Continued from previous page)
beside the point).

The Catacombs will resume All Men's nights at the private club according to Fred. And in other circles, the word is that Jim Oslund is firmly at the controls of Castro Station. Dale confides that they're planning another spectacular Christmas this year: "White Christmas" Is it snowing in the Castro?

KNIGHTS IN BONDAGE

Sartre refers to Genet's work as "a whirly gig of convoluting appearances between fantasy and reality." The Maids is just that, and the production, brilliantly adapted and directed by Ken Wilkinson is at 544 Natoma through this weekend only. Wilkinson has delicately constructed the tale around the servants of a Southern Queen, who imagine themselves as slaves to him, in bondage for life with no escape but to incriminate their Master's lover and murder their master.

The play is preceded by the music of Scrubly Koldewyn WITH Paul King singing some haunting, direct lyrics of S/M, sex, drugs, and degradation. The emotion charged words, however, never find life in the mouth of Mr. King. His dynamic yet cold interpretation doesn't call up the revolution of emotion which is the message of Genet's work.

Playing on a Leather/Deco set, Larry Glover (of the Brig) takes command of "Claire," moving easily and clearly between her duo personality... trying to find the strength to commit what Claire and his "sister" Solange (David Baker) think is their only escape. Mr. Wilkinson, as their Master, "Madam," draws the clear lines between reality and fantasy, pulling the entire play together for David and Larry. David delivers a powerful and disturbing soliloquy which leads us to Genet's twisted conclusion.

Glover lived up to the power of the musical prelude. With his sleek, hard body, he handles his two personalities like twin stallions in rein. Director Wilkinson is a very

MCC will say a few words. If you would like to send a memorial to Mr. Cowley, donations may be made to Patrick Cowley Memorial Fund at the KS Foundation: 470 Castro, S.F. 94114. (Phone 207-3360). I cannot express my personal grief at our loss. I hope to see you there to cry and sing with me.

KNIGHT FLIGHT

The AUA's Bay Area Brigade held a chic affair at Terry Cullum's Fortress on Twin Peaks. The city sparkled after the rains, as Terry flexed his professional powers with endless culinary delights. GG Troopers' Bill Meyer, lookin' festive, greeted the gang from the Phoenix, who were led by newly elected Prez Ed Guest. Hot John and Jim made an arresting appearance in Chips uniform. They tell me they've moved up from Carmel to partake of city life for awhile.

The Border Riders gave a fine benefit for KS at the Eagle. With a bounty of beer, chicken and fun, the leathery crowd packed the patio as some kinky and frolicsome door prizes were bestowed on some of our own MC members. Our favorite Road Princess was at her best as he beamed, "Well, we did it. And had fun, too. Amazing!" with a sigh of relief. ■

Karl Stewart

Karl's Calendar

Thursday, 12/2: New Work by Wes Rose. The Ambush, reception 5:30p.m.

Wednesday, 12/8: Manifest Man Contest. Oasis, 8p.m.; sign up at bar; Prizes.

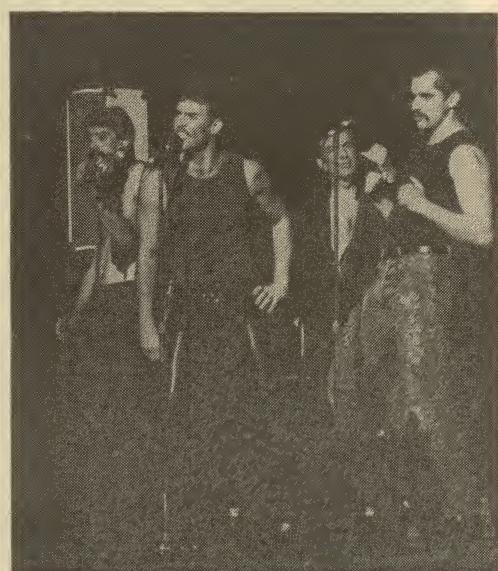
Sunday, 12/12: Queen's Roast. SF Eagle, 2-5p.m.; \$5 donation.

Tuesday, 12/14: Fifth Anniversary. Trocadero Transfer, 10p.m.; benefit for KS Foundation.

Wednesday, 12/15: Toad Hall Reunion. Includes "Beach Blanket Babylon" followed by party at Oasis. Call Paul Joseph, 863-2131; space limited.

Slave Auction. Bulldog Baths, 10p.m.; \$3 general admission; MC - Marcus.

Employees' Orgy. The House, 8p.m.; cocktails 6p.m.; lockers \$3.



Automatic Pilot, San Francisco's only ranking Gay band, has been so successful in stints at The Valencia Rose Cafe that they'll bring their jazz wave sound back to the club on Wednesday, December 8 and 15.

PORN CORNER

Confessions of a Dilettante

PETER KEANE

In attempting to write about *Inches*, one of two Al Parker films which recently revisited the Nob Hill, two facts must be taken into account: 1) it has been reviewed before, and 2) how can I, an admitted porn dilettante, hope to achieve the same libidinous lucidity that Karr achieves on a weekly basis in this column?

I decided to take the bull by the horns (or was it prong?) and investigate Mr. Parker's charms anyway, hoping against hope that one day this article, too, might be elevated to the pantheon of pluperfect porn.

This was a first. I have seen stills of Mr. Parker but never one of his films. (Has this boy been residing on another planet? you ask.) My introduction was a Colt calendar of several years ago: in this particular picture, he's standing on a desert road, clad only a a work shirt and boots, his pants having mysteriously disappeared. He has a tempting smirk on his face, and he's holding his cock at a right angle from the rest of his body (ah, that torso: sleek and smooth, it seems to be carved from marble). That photo helped to fuel many a cold evening's fantasy.

OK, enough for the exposition. Let's move on to the meat, as it were, of the matter. Mr. Parker's presence on screen. Is he good? Can he move? The answer is sort

of. His sex scenes are rarely less than arousing, but his thespic talents, when evident, seem oddly bewildering. Or, should I say, he seems oddly bewildered.

But who cares when he takes off his clothes!

Inches has an unusually sentimental plot. For sex movies, at least. Al's lover, Steve Taylor, leaves him for San Francisco and the arms

of another — oh those wicked Bay Area boys! After moping through most of the movie, Al begins to shed his grief and contemplate re-joining the social-and-sexual whirl. To this end, he is helped out by the bearded, beautiful Bob Blount. Bob whiskers him away to a snow-covered mountain-top retreat, and they enjoy one of the most stirring fuck scenes I've had the good fortune to witness. Blount's almost yoga-like acrobatics while being fucked seemed to stir Parker on to glorious heights: Parker's thrust in and out of Blount's ass builds in momentum, reaching a feverish pitch of short intense strokes. The orgasms, as you might well expect, are tremendous.



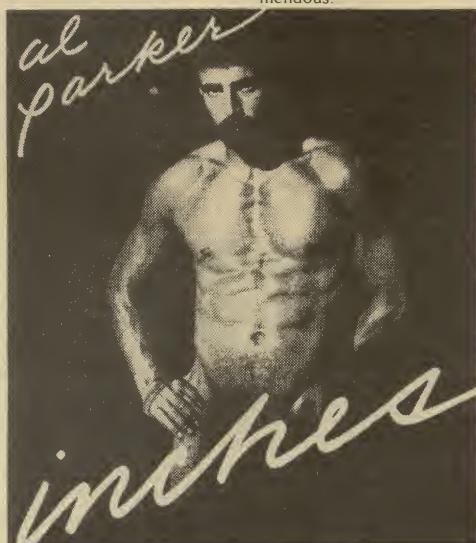
BB may be Bob Blount's initials — in this case they also stand for bearded & beautiful.

The camera work enhances the excitement, panning where panning is necessary, and zooming in close for an occasional shot of Blount's sweaty face and glistening chest. My only complaint, and it's a minor one, is that the flesh tones seem to change color kaleidoscopically during this scene. Possibly it was just a bad print.

Inches . . . has one of the most stirring fuck scenes I've witnessed on film.

The only other scene in the film that really did it for me, and in a quite different manner, featured Steve Taylor. I've never seen Mr. Taylor before, but I intend to make up for lost time. He's a handsome guy with a perfectly sculpted body, whose charms seem well-served by his slow, deliberate approach to sex. Here's a man who could give you a thorough going-over.

In this scene Parker dreams he is watching Taylor service, and be serviced by, three hunks in white porcelain masks. As the action unfolds, Taylor is languidly, almost lazily, sucking off the guys one by one. This progresses inevitably to more pressing matters, as Taylor takes each



Perennial favorite Al Parker takes time to promote his film INCHES.

man's cock, trying out a variety of positions. The final scene shows him getting fucked on a platform, all the while sweating profusely, as the camera roams his solid muscled body. The last shot is from above, high up at ceiling level. This may not be a novel approach, but I found it effective.

There is too little sex, and an overemphasis on plot in this movie to suit my porn preferences. But being somewhat less than a connoisseur, I'm happy if the overall mood of the film is good. In this case, the presences of Parker, Taylor and Blount made it so. ■

Winter Wonder

The Tayu House, near the Russian River in Sonoma County, presents its 1982 Winter Solstice Celebration. The event last from noon to noon, December 18 and 19. You should bring a bag lunch, a favorite dish or supplies for a pot-luck supper, a sleeping bag or bedroll and an inexpensive present (under \$2). A \$6 donation is suggested. Car pools can be arranged. Call (707) 887-2490 for info and registration. ■

Comedy Tonite

An evening of comedy featuring Michael Pritchard, Jim Giovanni, Jane Dornacker, A. Whitney Brown, the National Theatre of the Derailed and Jim Samuels will be presented at 8:30 PM on December 7 in Trinity Place. The program, *Comedy Tonight* is presented by the S.F. Council on Entertainment. Admission, \$6, with \$2 off to Council members. ■

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DANCE

(Continued from Page 28)

ning progressed, the male dancers continued to stand out in bold (yet tasteful) relief. Try as I did to find compelling performances by women in the company, it was not until the end of the program that one woman broke through that politely masculine haze and made a strong theatrical statement. I think it is a predilection of the company choreographers, more than the women themselves, which kept them in the background.

Richard Alston's *Apollo Distracted* lifted the subtle male predominance to an esthetic level of ballet classicism, performed barefoot. A female soloist around whom the piece revolved lacked the finesse or physical power to impress me, despite the whole work's reversed sexual polarities. The women were shown more energetically and assertively than the men, who appeared particularly classical and contemplative. This reached a high point during a

slow, protracted trio for three men, the mid-section of the dance. What a pleasure it was to see men used this way, lifting and supporting each other through continuous balanced tableaux, reminiscent (frankly derivative, actually) of the poses designed for the three female muses in Balanchine's *Apollo*. The Rambert's three demi-gods didn't look feminine, however, rather quiet and lyrical, with an attention to continuity and line that is

the same impulse and humor, making the audience laugh and lose tension, energy running freely through the company in sustained, comfortable-looking ebbs and flows. The score consisted of two "word scores" — repeated spoken words and phrases of the type that Cunningham (and Margaret Jenkins) use, ending in a ragtime xylophone composition.

The program ended with

The significance of Ballet Rambert is in its variety of styles of modern dance.

usually (and unnecessarily) reserved for women.

The company achieved something close to democracy in the "light" piece, *Rainbow Ripples*, also by Richard Alston. Looking very much like Merce Cunningham's choreography but emanating from some light-hearted and playful mood I don't associate with Cunningham at all, every dancer performed with

Christopher Bruce's *Das Berliner Requiem*, to deeply involving Kurt Weill/Bertolt Brecht choral songs sung (on tape) by a male ensemble. Reminding me both of Kurt Joos' *The Green Table* and Eliot Feld's *A Soldier's Tale*, Bruce's movement again looked like Martha Graham, but the evocations of a crushed Berlin rose above it like dangerous fumes. "The Great

Hymn of Thanksgiving" begins and ends the work, choreographed as a flowing double-duet but foreshadowing atrocities to come through eerie dim lighting and underlying musical severity. The "Ballad of the Drowned Girl" related historically to the 1919 assassination of Rosa Luxemburg, rendered by Bruce as a lifeless girl being tossed and dragged in endless perpetuity by four great-coated policemen. No explanation of the vignette is really necessary, tragedy lurking in every gesture of Diane Walker's amazing performance as the "drowned girl," the only female role of the evening that was memorable. A third movement, "Legend of the Unknown Soldier Beneath the Triumphal Arch," is another magnificent men's ensemble, a sculptural quartet of tattered and bloody soldiers, palpable death and exhaustion. *Das Berliner Requiem* is an unusually powerful dramatic dance work and a paragon of composition.

Every piece was reminis-

cent of something else, but there is a major difference between the Rambert and American modern dance companies. Our modern companies have tended to revolve around a single, individualistic choreographer, including the American companies which seem to have made the strongest impressions on the Rambert's house choreographers, Graham and Cunningham. The second evening, which I did not see, included Paul Taylor's *Airs* and a jazz piece said to resemble some of Alvin Ailey's work. It is unique to find these influences coexisting in one company — more unusual since Ballet Rambert began as a classical ballet company and continues to stress ballet values in its style and technical development. The result is a lyricism, particularly among the men, that is too rarely tapped by choreographers of any style, and a company image that is highly refined, quietly impressive, subtly innovative.

Keith White

MUSIC

(Continued from Page 28)

often bittersweet on the subject of love's vexations) were clearly spoken in English before each number. This was a good idea, which encouraged a wider appreciation of Brahms's canny dramatic subtleties.

Finishing off the first half with a renaissance confection, the combined chorus (appropriately dispersed between the back and front of the Unitarian Church) gave a thoroughly charming account of Orlando Gibbons's "Echo Song." Again, one was struck by the high standards of taste in programming in choosing music whose appeal was uni-

versal, artistic and refined. At some of the recent S.F. Gay Men's Chorus shows I've felt the presence of an imagined tipsy "size queen" nudging me in the ribs with a beer bottle to make sure I caught some witless double entendre in the text.

After the intermission, the "Vocal Minority" strutted their stuff with a selection of Duke Ellington favorites. I think that if splinter groups like this one (and the Men about Town from the G.M.C.) want to do convincing versions of pop or jazz hits, they ought to utilize electric amplification and engage the services of a rhythmically vital drummer. What they do now neither "swings" nor sounds full

toned enough to provide a really satisfying jazz experience. What's the point? Black music has definite criteria for effective performance just like western classical music. If these criteria aren't met the result frequently becomes self-indulgent, that is to say done primarily for the pleasure of the participants and not the audience.

A medley from Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* suffered like the preceding selections from honkey diction overkill. This

had a castrating effect on the music.

Howard Hanson's setting of "Beat! Beat! Drums!" with words by Walt Whitman, was a solid, craftsmanlike attempt at capturing the fervid sentiment of the poem. The piano accompaniment owed a lot to Holst's "Mars" from the "Planets" suite for orchestra, but the cumulative effect of those relentless dotted rhythms was undeniably exciting, as was the blast of hackle-raising thunder with

which the chorus finished the piece.

Though the chorus still has its small rough edges, its collective heart (and Robin Kay's guidance) are clearly in the right place, and the future looks bright for continued artistic expansion and consolidation. The chorus is an inspiring symbol of what increased Lesbian/Gay cooperation can achieve in the realm of the arts.

Jon Randall

The Screaming Memes

Biting the Barb That Bleeds You

by Mark Topkin

What Gay man can resist anyone who demonstrates a way with words? From Oscar Wilde to Quentin Crisp our ears have always been open to the bite, the barb, the bon mot, the double entendre (and his sleazy sister, the pun). It is my irresistible draw to quick, clever, creative word play that made my first evening with the Screaming Memes such a delight. This group of four lightening-minded comics have taken up residence at the Chi Chi Theatre Club in North Beach through the end of the year with their topical set pieces and their awesome ability to improvise.

Decidedly heterosexual — yet without any Gay derrogation — the Screaming Memes' evening of comedy is never the same twice, but always, I have a feeling, a surprise a minute. At least half the show relies on audience suggestions of names, places, situations and events that the Memes then instantaneously turn into a comedy sketch. Their facility with language and characterization allows

each suggestion to grow and change in ways ranging from amusing to ridiculous to hilarious. Rarely, in the show I saw, did a moment fall flat; if it did, a second later the Memes were off on a different tangent and heading for louder laughs.

Between the improvisations there are set sketches that range from parodies ("Hi Kids, Dead Barbara, Funeral, USA") to topical satire (jive talking cultureless whites engaging in compulsive negritude). Funny as these are, I eventually began to see them somewhat as station breaks between the hearts of the pro-

gramming: the improvisations.

The Screaming Memes — Mark Taylor, Barbara Scott, Paddy Morrissey and Jackson — have developed a cult following over their years in the Bay Area, and with this stand at the Chi Chi they should most certainly expand their audience. They offer a remarkable blend of entertainment along with a chance to watch instant creative energy at work.

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Chi-Chi Theatre Club
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Musings Unamusing

(Continued from Page 21)

such past efforts as *The Gay Mystique* and *Special Teachers/Special Boys* has finally jumped in over his head. He has decided to share his diary with us. This may be a promising idea, but depends on whether the person who shares with us has led an intense and provocative life. This is not the case here.

Fisher's love life and diary discourse are remarkably unremarkable. Many a Gay man has experienced similar agonies and yet not felt compelled to gush forth. The reader will doubtless wonder if any of the events recounted here are worth knowing about.

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But we find ourselves unmoved. We've heard it all before. After the orgy comes boredom and the tiresome search for more. Even the encore is hard to take.

Dear Pete: You proved you can do it before. Please get back on the track and leave the passionate musings to Walt Whitman. ■

Frank Howell

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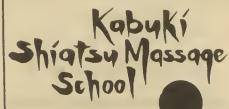
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An open letter to the gay community on hepatitis B

Hepatitis B, a serious disease, may be sexually transmitted

Sexually transmitted diseases among the gay community are epidemic. Herpes has recently received a lot of attention; gonorrhea and syphilis are well known; but the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recently issued a major recommendation for the prevention of another sexually transmitted disease: Hepatitis B. In their *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, the CDC stated: "Susceptible homosexually active males should be vaccinated [against hepatitis B] regardless of their age or duration of their homosexual practices."

Gay men are at a high risk of contracting hepatitis B

In one study, from 51% to 76% of 3,816 gay men seen in five sexually transmitted disease clinics had evidence of past or present hepatitis B infection. Once infected, there's a 6% to 10% chance of becoming a carrier—capable of passing on the virus. The CDC estimated there are nearly 1 million carriers in the United States and that 100,000 of these carriers are gay men.

The hepatitis B virus can be passed on by contact with contaminated body fluids

such as saliva, urine, semen, and blood. The hepatitis B virus can be transmitted through tiny breaks in the skin or contact with mucous membranes. This can occur during intimate sexual contact and can lead to hepatitis B for the partner of an infected person. Although most patients recover and over half contracting hepatitis B do not get symptoms, there is no specific treatment and no known cure for hepatitis B infections.

Hepatitis B may lead to even more serious complications

For those who do get symptoms of hepatitis B, a mild or severe "flu-like" sickness may continue for weeks or months. Ten percent of all infections become long lasting (chronic) with potential complications that are sometimes more serious than those of other sexually transmitted diseases. The serious complications include the chronic carrier state, chronic active hepatitis, chronic persistent hepatitis, cirrhosis, and even cancer of the liver. Every year almost 4,000 carriers die of cirrhosis. In addition, carriers have a risk 273 times greater than that of the general population of contracting a usually fatal form of liver cancer.

Now this serious sexually transmitted disease is usually preventable by vaccination with the new hepatitis B vaccine

After more than a decade of research and development, a new vaccine is available for prevention, *not treatment*, of hepatitis B. In clinical studies, the vaccine was highly effective in preventing hepatitis B infection and was generally well tolerated. No serious adverse reactions occurred in these studies.

The vaccination regimen consists of a series of three injections, the first two a month apart and the third, six months after the first. To be effective, the vaccine must be given before a person gets hepatitis B. The vaccine helps prevent the disease. It is *not effective as a treatment*. We suggest that you consult your doctor to determine if you should be vaccinated.

For more information about hepatitis B and the vaccine to prevent it, contact your doctor, clinic, or the American Liver Foundation, 998 Pompton Avenue, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009 (201) 857-2626.

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Why you should consult your doctor or clinic

The vaccine helps protect against infection caused by hepatitis B virus. This virus is an important cause of viral hepatitis, a disease mainly of the liver. Even mild forms of this disease may lead to serious complications and aftereffects, including liver cancer. There is no specific treatment for viral hepatitis.

Vaccination is recommended for persons who have a higher risk of becoming infected with hepatitis B virus because of frequent, close contact with infected people or exposure to body fluids from such people. It will not

protect against hepatitis caused by viruses other than hepatitis B virus.

No serious adverse reactions were reported in over 6,000 individuals receiving the vaccine in clinical trials. The most frequent reaction was soreness at the point of injection; less common local reactions included redness, swelling, warmth, or formation of a hard, lumplike spot. The local effects were usually mild and lasted no more than 2 days after vaccination. Occasionally, low-grade fever (less than 101°F) occurred. When it did, it usually lasted no longer than 48 hours following vaccination. In

rare cases, fever over 102°F was reported.

More generalized complaints including malaise, fatigue, headache, nausea, dizziness, muscle pain, and joint pain were reported infrequently. Rash was reported rarely. As with any vaccine, broad use may reveal additional adverse reactions.

Your doctor or clinic knows what special care must be taken when administering the vaccine and in determining who should receive the vaccine. The vaccine is not intended for persons who are allergic to any of its components.